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L I F E O F S I R T H O M A S M O R E.

WITH AN ELEGANT HEAD.

SIR Thomas More, only son of King Henry the Seventh's eldest daughter with the King of Scotland. Sir John More, was born in the year 1480, in Milk-street, London. Many of the members, dreading the King's displeasure, made little opposition to this exorbitant request; but His father, who was one of the Judges of the King's Bench, and a man of some eminence in his profession, sent him to Oxford in 1497, where he had the advantage of hearing the lectures of Lynacre and Grocynus upon the Latin and Greek languages; and it was not long before he gave some excellent specimens of his skill in both, as well as in poetry and composition. After spending about two years at the University, where he made great proficiency also in other branches of study, such as rhetoric, logic, and philosophy, he was removed to New Inn, London, in order to study the law, being then about the age of nineteen. At the age of twenty-one he was elected Member of Parliament, and distinguished himself very much in the House of Commons in 1503, on the motion for granting a subsidy and three-fifteenths for the marriage of

King Henry the Seventh's eldest daughter with the King of Scotland. Many of the members, dreading the King's displeasure, made little opposition to this exorbitant request; but Mr. More argued against it with so much force and eloquence, that the King's demand was at length rejected. As soon as the vote had passed, Mr. Tyler, one of the King's privy council, went and informed his Majesty, that a beardless boy had defeated his purpose. The King was incensed; but, as young More had nothing to lose, he directed his vengeance against his father, whom he sent to the Tower, for a pretended offence, and he kept him there, in close confinement, till he had extorted from him a fine of an hundred pounds. Young More having received information soon after this, from his friend Mr. Whiteford, chaplain to Fox, bishop of Winchester, that the court were laying snares for him, conceived a design of avoiding the consequences by going abroad. On this account he applied himself to

the study of the French language, amusing himself sometimes in his leisure hours with the violin, upon which he was a very good performer. He made himself master also of most of the liberal sciences, and attained to a perfect knowledge of history. But meeting with no farther disturbance, he did not quit England; and as soon as he had put on the gown, he read lectures publicly in the church of St. Lawrence, Old Jewry, upon St. Augustine's treatise *De Civitate Dei*, with much applause. He was then appointed law-reader in Furnival's-Inn; which place he enjoyed above three years; after which, he took lodgings near the Charter-house, where he joined in all the religious exercises of the society, but without engaging in a vow. It appears, that he once had an inclination for entering into the order of the Franciscans, as well as of embracing the office of priesthood; but he afterwards altered his intention, either in obedience to the desire of his father, who wished him to pursue the study of the law, or from some other motive with which we are unacquainted. After four years spent in these austerities, by the advice of Dr. Collet, Dean of St. Paul's, he married the eldest daughter of John Colt, of Newhall in Essex, and settling his wife and family at Bucklersbury, attended his profession at his chambers in Lincoln's-Inn till he was called to the bench. In 1508 he was appointed Judge of the Sheriff's-court, in the city of London: about the same time he was made a justice of the peace; and he became so eminent in the practice of the law, that there was scarcely a cause of any importance tried at the bar in which he was not retained.

While engaged in the laborious duties of his profession, he did not however neglect to improve his talents for polite literature; for, amidst all the hurry of business, he wrote in 1516 his *Utopia*, a book so much applauded, that it was soon after translated into the French, Dutch, and Italian languages. In this work, the

idea, of which seems to have been taken from the republic of Plato, the author feigns a certain country, named *Utopia*, to be one of those discovered a little before in America, and the account of it to have been given him by one Hythlodius, a Portuguese, who had accompanied Americus Vesputius in his expedition to that quarter of the world. Many learned men were pleased with the description of the climate, and with the manners and customs of the inhabitants; and having no suspicion of its being a political romance, out of a fervent zeal, wished that some divines might be sent thither to preach Christianity; and several were even desirous to make the voyage.

About this time also he carried on a correspondence with most of the learned men of that age, and particularly with the celebrated Erasmus, who seems to have enjoyed the greatest share in his affections. Of his interview with this eminent character, who several years after came to England, on purpose to pay him a visit, the following story is told, which, though trifling in itself, becomes interesting when related of two such great men. Upon the arrival of Erasmus, it was so contrived that he and More should meet at the Lord-Mayor's table in London, before they were introduced to each other. At dinner, happening to fall into an argument, Erasmus, feeling the keenness of his antagonist's wit, exclaimed in Latin, not without some warmth, "Thou art either More or nobody." Upon which Sir Thomas replied, in the same language, "Thou art either Erasmus or the devil." After this explanation they cordially embraced, and, through the recommendation of More, Erasmus was much caressed by the greatest men in the nation.

Before he entered into the immediate service of Henry the Eighth, he had been twice employed, with his Majesty's consent, as agent for the English merchants, in some considerable disputes between them and the merchants of the Steel-yard; and
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about the year 1516 he went to Flanders, in the retinue of the Bishop of Durham and Dr. Knight, commissioners for renewing the treaty of alliance between Henry VIII. and Charles V. then only Arch-duke of Austria; when the King, observing the address and ability which he displayed in the course of that business, ordered Cardinal Wolsey, who was prime minister, to engage him in the service of the court, and with this view he was offered a pension. This however he did not accept; and he appeared in the star-chamber a few years after as an advocate against the crown. A ship of the Pope's had put into Southampton, the King claimed it as a forfeiture, upon which the legate demanded a trial with council for his Holiness; and as he himself was a great civilian, he desired it might be heard when he was present. To this Henry consented, and Mr. More was chosen counsel on the side of the Pope, whose cause he pleaded with so much success, that the forfeiture was restored, and the conduct of the lawyer highly applauded.

This new display of abilities was a farther inducement to Henry to endeavour to gain over More; and as there was no better vacancy, he obliged him to accept the place of Master of the Requests; a month after, he conferred on him the honor of knighthood, and made him a privy-counsellor; and on the death of Mr. Weston, the year following, he was raised, without solicitation, to be Treasurer of the Exchequer. He now purchased a house at Chelsea, and having married a second wife, settled there with his family. Of his manner of life in that house we have the following excellent picture by his friend Erasmus: "More," says he, "hath built, near London, upon the Thames, such a commodious house as is neither mean nor subject to envy, yet magnificent enough: there he converseth affably with his wife, his son, and daughter-in-law, his three daughters and their husbands, with eleven grand-children.

"No man living is so affectionate to his children as he; he loveth his old wife as well as if she were young; and such is the excellence of his temper, that whatsoever happeneth that could not be helped, he beareth it as well as though nothing more fortunate could have happened. Were you in that place, you would say you beheld Plato's Academy. But I do the house an injury to compare it to Plato's Academy, where there were only disputations on numbers and geometrical figures, and sometimes on the moral virtues. I should rather call his house a school of Christian religion; for there is none in it but readeth or studieth the liberal sciences: their special care is piety and virtue; there is no quarrelling or intemperate words heard; no one is seen idle. Which household discipline that worthy gentleman doth govern, not by proud and lofty words, but with all kind and courteous benevolence: all perform their duty, yet there is always alacrity, and sober mirth is not wanting."

With all his excellent endowments for public business, Sir Thomas was particularly formed for the sweets of retirement, and the enjoyments of private life; and the King, having once experienced this engaging part of his new favorite's character, became remarkably fond of his conversation. When the King had performed his devotions on holidays, he used to send for Sir Thomas into his closet, and there confer with him about astronomy, geometry, divinity, and various parts of learning, and at other times upon public affairs; he would frequently carry him up in the night-time to the leads on the top of his house, and discourse with him upon the motions of the planets; and because Sir Thomas was of a cheerful disposition, and possessed a fund of humor and pleasantry, the King and Queen, after supper, often ordered him to be sent for, to entertain and amuse them. Sir Thomas, perceiving this fondness

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increase so much as to become disagreeable to him, and to prevent him from paying proper attention to his own family, being scarcely ever suffered to quit the palace, he began by little and little to disuse himself from his former mirth, and to assume an affected air of gravity; by which means he freed himself from the disagreeable restraint under which he had been kept, and becoming a less pleasing companion, was not sent for so often as before.

In 1523, when he was Speaker of the House of Commons, he shewed an intrepidity almost unprecedented, in opposing an oppressive subsidy demanded by Cardinal Wolsey, who was at that time minister. Wolsey, apprehensive of the ill humor of the House, resolved to be present when the affair should be taken into consideration, and giving the House notice, a warm debate arose, whether they should receive him with a few of his Lords, which was the general opinion, or with his whole train. The Speaker, upon this, rising up, said, "Gentlemen, since my Lord Cardinal hath, not long ago, laid to our charge the lightness of our tongues for things spoken out of this House,* it will not, in my judgment, be amiss to receive him with all his people; for if he should blame us hereafter for the like fault, he may lay it upon those whom his Grace shall bring with him." The House being pleased with the humor of the Speaker's motion, the Cardinal was received accordingly; but finding, after he had explained, in a solemn speech, the necessity of granting the subsidies demanded, that none of the members returned any answer, or shewed the least inclination to comply with his request, he fell into a passion, and with great indignation, said, "Gentlemen, unless it be the manner of the House to express your senti-

ments in such cases by your Speaker, your silence is certainly surprising and obstinate." He then required the Speaker to give him an answer to the request which he made in the name of the King. Upon which Sir Thomas, falling upon his knees with great reverence, excused their silence, as being abashed at the presence of so exalted a personage. He then proceeded to shew that it was not consistent with the ancient liberty of the House, to give an answer to his Majesty's messages but by the mouth of their Speaker, and concluded by telling his Eminence, that though he, as Speaker, was the voice of the Commons, yet unless every one of them could put his judgment into his head, he alone, in a matter of so great importance and moment, could not pretend to give a suitable answer. This evasive reply highly offended the Cardinal, he therefore suddenly rose up and departed. His displeasure was, perhaps, greater, as he knew that Sir Thomas had seconded the motion when it was first made. Some time after this, being in Wolsey's gallery at Whitehall, his Eminence complaining of his behaviour upon that occasion, said, "Would to God you had been at Rome when I made you Speaker!" To which Sir Thomas replied, "Your Grace not offended, I wish I had; I should then have enjoyed the pleasure of seeing a place I have long desired to visit." He then began to praise his gallery, and said, he liked it better than his other at Hampton Court; but though this appeased Wolsey for the moment, it did not cool his resentment, for afterwards, when the Parliament broke up, he persuaded the King to send him on an embassy to Spain; but this Sir Thomas endeavoured to avoid, by pleading want of health. His Majesty allowed the justness of his argument, and told him, that as he meant

* It appears that Wolsey about that period had been much offended with some of the Members for divulging the transactions of the House out of doors. The Members on the other hand, thought they had an undoubted right to let their friends know what was going forward.

not to hurt him, but to do him service, he would think of employing his talents in some other manner. Not long after, on the death of Sir R. Wingfield, he was appointed Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster; and at the same time, admitted into such a high degree of favor with the King, that his Majesty would sometimes go to his house at Chelsea, without sending him previous notice, in order to enjoy the pleasure of his conversation upon common affairs.

The King one day having paid him an unexpected visit of this kind, after dinner he walked in the garden near an hour, with his arm about Sir Thomas' neck. When his Majesty was gone, Mr. Roper, one of Sir Thomas' sons-in-law, observed to him, that he was very happy to enjoy the favor of his Sovereign in so distinguished a manner. To which Sir Thomas replied, "I thank our Lord, son Roper, I find his Grace to be my very good master, indeed; and I believe that he favors me as much as any subject within this kingdom; but yet I must tell thee, son, that I have no cause to be proud of it, for if my head would win him a castle in France,* he would not fail to have it struck off my shoulders."

It is rather remarkable, that of all Henry's servants and favorites, none was treated by him with greater kindness and respect than Sir Thomas More, and yet none seems better to have preserved his independence, or to have been less solicitous to enjoy the smiles of his sovereign. As a proof of this, we may cite the freedom with which he delivered his opinion respecting the unlawfulness of Henry's marriage. The answer he gave the King upon that occasion does the highest honor to his memory, and ought not to be passed over in silence. Clark and Tonstal, Bishops of Bath and Durham, with some others of the Privy Council, having been ordered to consult with him, "to be plain with your Grace," said Sir Tho-

mas, "neither my Lord of Durham, nor my Lord of Bath, nor myself, nor any of your Privy Council, being all your servants, and greatly indebted to your goodness, are, in my judgment, proper counsellors for your Grace upon this point; but if you are desirous of understanding the truth, you may have counsellors who, neither out of regard to worldly interest, nor through fear of your princely authority, will deceive you." He then named Jerome, Austin, and several more of the ancient fathers, producing the opinions he had collected from them. This liberty, obstinate and severe as Henry was, did not exclude him from enjoying his Majesty's friendship; and we find that in 1529, he was appointed, together with Tonstal, Bishop of Durham, to negotiate a peace between the Emperor, Henry, and the King of France, in which he was successful, the peace being concluded at Cambray, and with more advantages to England than were expected. For this, and other eminent services, the King, on the disgrace of Wolsey, thought proper to entrust the great seal to Sir Thomas, which was delivered to him on the 25th of October, 1530.

In this new employment More still farther confirmed the opinion entertained of his abilities, integrity and impartiality. The conduct of his predecessor had been haughty and proud: people of ordinary rank he beheld with contempt; nor could they procure access to him without giving a bribe to his servant. The scene was now entirely reversed; for the new Chancellor behaved with affability to all, and the poorer and humbler his suitors were, the more attentive and ready he was to hear their causes, and give them redress. It is said, that one of his sons-in-law, Mr. Dauncey, found fault with him once, between jest and earnest, for being so condescending; adding, "You are so ready to hear every one, poor as well as

* Henry at that time was at war with France.

"rich,

"rich, that there is no getting any thing under you; whereas were you otherwise, some for friendship, some for kindred, and some for profit, would gladly have my interest to bring them to you. I know I should do them wrong if I took any thing from them, because they might as readily prefer their suits to you themselves; but though I think this very commendable in you, yet to me, who am your son, I find it not profitable." "You say well, son, replied the Chancellor; I am glad you have so scrupulous a conscience; but there are many other ways in which I can do good to you, and give pleasure to my friends; be assured of this, upon my faith, that if the parties will call for justice at my hands, then, though my father, whom I love so dearly, stood on one side, and the devil, whom I detest, stood on the other, were the cause good, the devil should have it." Many instances might be given of More's rigid adherence to honor and justice; but the following seems to be an undoubted proof of it. Another of his sons-in-law, Mr. Heron, having a suit depending, was advised to submit it to arbitration; presuming, however, on his father's favor and interest, he rejected this proposal; and the Chancellor, upon hearing the cause, made a decree directly against him. His integrity in this high office appeared also very conspicuous after his fall, when one Parnel, by the instigation of his enemies, accused him of receiving a bribe for making a decree against him, in favour of his antagonist, Vaughan, who gave him a gold cup for it. Sir Thomas confessed that he had received the cup from the hands of Vaughan's wife, but immediately ordering his butler to fill it with wine, drank to her, and when she had pledged him, he said, "As freely as your husband hath given this cup to me, as freely do I again return it, that you may give it to your husband for his New year's gift." At another time, one Gre-

sham, having a cause depending in Chancery, sent Sir Thomas for a New year's gift, a beautiful gilt cup, the fashion of which pleased him so much, that he ordered one of his own, of more value, though of not so elegant a fashion, to be delivered to the messenger for his master; nor would he receive the present upon any other condition. With the same upright resolution being presented by one Mrs. Goaker, with a pair of gloves, and forty pounds in angels put into them, he said to her, "Mistress, since it would be contrary to good manners not to receive your New year's gift, I accept your gloves, but as for the lining, I utterly refuse it."

It has been asserted by some historians, that Henry gave the great seal to Sir Thomas More, merely with a view that he might engage a man so eminent for his learning and virtue, to give his opinion in favor of his divorce from Queen Catherine. However this may be, it evidently appears that Sir Thomas always opposed such a measure, and not being able to satisfy his conscience respecting it, and fearing that he should be required by the nature of his office to give a confirmation of that which he knew repugnant to religion, after having been Chancellor for almost three years, he resolved to resign, and for that purpose begged his great and intimate friend, the Duke of Norfolk, to intercede with his Majesty, that he might be permitted to deliver up the seals. This request was granted, but with reluctance, and the seals were accordingly committed into his Majesty's hands, on the fifteenth of May, 1533. About the time of his resignation, he lost his father, to whom in his last illness he behaved, as he had always done, with every mark of affection and filial piety. This event however brought very little addition to his fortune, because the greater part of his father's estate had been settled on his second wife, who outlived Sir Thomas many years.—When he resigned the great seal, he wrote an apology for himself, in which he declared to the public, that all the revenues

revenues and estates he had by his father, his wife, or by purchase, did not amount to the value of fifty pounds a year. This assertion will no doubt appear strange, especially to those who are apt to judge of things from the practice of modern times; but so great was this excellent man's charity, and so great his contempt of money, that though he had held many important and lucrative offices, for the space of more than twenty years, he made no provision either for himself or his family.

After he had resigned his office, finding that the limited state of his finances would not permit him to live in that splendor which his rank seemed to require, he dismissed all his gentlemen and servants, but he took care to provide suitable offices for them, that none of them might be reduced to distress on his account; he sent his married children also to their houses, having before kept them with him; thus by degrees contracting his family, that he might be able to live within the bounds of his scanty income, which amounted at most to little more than an hundred pounds. He now resolved never more to engage in public business; but, giving himself up to study and devotion, retired to his house at Chelsea, to enjoy in tranquillity the sweets of domestic life; not without some prefaces, however, of the storm that was gathering; for as he was well acquainted with the cruel and fickle disposition of the King, he expected to be treated with rigor; he therefore prepared himself with pious resignation to meet that fate which he had often foretold would befall him.

The coronation of Ann Boleyn being fixed for the 31st of May, 1533, Sir Thomas More was invited to be present at the ceremony; but this he declined, as he had not altered his opinion respecting the illegality of the King's divorce from Queen Catharine. This refusal exasperated his Majesty, and in the ensuing Parliament a bill was brought into the House of Lords, attainting him and Bishop Fisher, with some others, for countenancing

and encouraging Elizabeth Barton, a pretended prophetess, commonly styled the holy maid of Kent. This woman had been subject to hysterical fits, which at times disordered her reason, and made her utter strange speeches. The ignorant people in the neighbourhood imagined she was inspired; and a designing fellow, who was vicar of the parish, thence formed a design of turning this circumstance to his own profit and advantage. Tutored by him, she pretended to inspiration, and declaimed against the King's proceedings in the affair of the divorce, denouncing, at the same time, several threats against his Counsellors, for which she was afterwards tried and condemned. But it appearing, by the clearest evidence, that More had no hand in carrying on this infamous imposture, his enemies were obliged to strike his name out of the list. Several other accusations equally groundless were brought against him, and attended with no better success, till the Act of Supremacy was passed in 1534. When the oath enjoined by it was tendered to him, about a month after, he refused to take it; upon this, he was first put into the custody of the Abbot of Westminster; but upon a second refusal, four days after, he was committed close prisoner to the Tower of London.

When put into confinement, no arguments or entreaties could prevail upon him to acknowledge an opinion so repugnant to his principles as that of the King's supremacy. Rich, who was then solicitor-general, was sent to confer with him; but he was very cautious in his replies, and was only inveigled to say, that any question, with regard to law, which established that prerogative, was like a two-edged sword; if a person answered one way, it would confound his soul, if he answered another, it would destroy his body. This expression was sufficient for the informer to found an accusation upon; and Sir Thomas, after having lain almost fifteen months in prison, was arraigned, and tried at the bar of the King's Bench for high treason.

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It appears that juries at that period were little more than mere formalities. All the proof against Sir Thomas rested upon the testimony of Rich, and though he not only denied in the most solemn manner, the words which he was said to have spoken, but sufficiently discredited the witness, the jury brought him in guilty, and he was accordingly condemned to be hanged, quartered, and drawn, and his head fixed on a pole, to be placed on London Bridge. But this sentence, on account of the office which he had borne, was all except the last particular, changed by the King, into beheading.

On the 5th of July, 1535, the day appointed for his execution, he was brought from the Tower about nine o'clock; his beard, which he had always been accustomed to shave, was then long, his visage appeared very pale, and he bore in his hands a red cross, casting his eyes every now and then towards heaven. As he was passing along to the place of execution, on Tower Hill, a woman, suborned as is supposed by his adversaries, to disgrace him, came running after him, calling out, that he had done her a great injury when he had been Lord Chancellor, by passing an unjust decree against her; to whom he only said, that he remembered her cause very well, and that were he again to give sentence, he would not alter what he had done.

When brought to the scaffold, it appeared to him so weak as not to be capable of sustaining his weight; upon which he said to the Lieutenant of the Tower, who attended him, "Pray, Sir, assist me to get up; as for my coming down, let me shift for myself." After having knelt down and repeated a psalm with great fervor and devotion, he rose up, not in the least daunted, and when the executioner begged him forgiveness, he kissed him, saying, "This day you will do me a greater service than ever any man did; pull up your spirits, and be not afraid to do your duty; take heed, therefore, not to miss your stroke, lest you lose your cre-

"dit." When the executioner offered to cover his eyes, he said, "I will cover them myself," and immediately did so with a cloth which he had brought with him for that purpose; then laying his head on the block, he bade the executioner stay till he had put aside his beard, "for," said he, "that never was guilty of treason."

His body being interred in the chapel of the Tower, was afterwards begged by his daughter Margaret, and deposited on the south-side of the chancel in the church of Chelsea, where a monument, with an inscription written by himself, had been erected some time before. The same affectionate daughter found means also to procure his head, after it had remained upon London bridge fourteen days, which she carefully preserved in a leaden box till there was an opportunity of removing it to Canterbury, where she placed it in a vault under a chapel near St. Dunstan's church, belonging to the Roper family, into which she was married.

This eminent man was of a middle stature, and extremely well proportioned; his complexion was fair, with a light tincture of red; the colour of his hair was a dark chestnut, he had grey eyes, and a thin beard. His countenance, the true index of his mind, was always cheerful and pleasant, composed by habit into an agreeable smile, seeming calculated for mirth and festivity, rather than for gravity or dignity. In walking his right shoulder appeared higher than the other, but this was occasioned by habit, and not by any defect of nature. The rest of his body was entirely faultless, only his hands were somewhat clumsy and rustic.

In his dress he was for the most part very plain; but when the dignity of his office required it he conformed to custom. His constitution was generally healthy; but towards the latter part of his life he complained of a pain in his breast, and some decay of strength, which afforded him a sufficient pretext for resigning the Chancellorship.

It is universally allowed, that Sir Thomas More was admirably skilled in every branch of polite literature; and Bishop Burnet, who treats him very severely, both as a writer, and a persecutor of the reformers, owns, that for justice, contempt of money, humility, and true generosity of mind, he was an example to the age in which he lived. He is however charged with some foibles, the principal of which seems to have been too great an affectation of singularity. The levity of his wit in jesting, was censured by Lord Herbert, and in this he is supported by Erasmus, who calls him another Democritus. The well known story of his witticism in the last scene of his life, after his head was laid upon the block, when he put aside his beard, gave birth to that celebrated irony of the Duke of Buckingham,

Tho' who can choose but pity
A dying hero, miserably witty.

His apology, however, was written by Mr. Addison, who considers his mirth, which was natural to him all his life before, to be at this time the effect of his innocence. His death, says he, was of a piece with his life; there was nothing in it new, forced or affected. He saw nothing in death to put him from his ordinary humour;

and as he died under a fixed and settled hope of immortality, he thought any unusual degree of horror or concern improper on such an occasion, as it had nothing in it which could deject or terrify him. However, he concludes with the following remark, that what was philosophy in this extraordinary man, would be phrenzy in any one who did not resemble him, as well in the cheerfulness of his temper, as in the sanctity of his life and manners.

By his first wife he had four children, who all survived him; three daughters, and one son. Sir Thomas had the three daughters first, and his wife very much desired a boy; at length she brought him this son, who proved little better than an idiot; upon which, Sir Thomas, it is said, told his lady she had prayed so long for a boy, that she had now one who would be a boy as long as he lived. However, he had all the advantages that a liberal education could give him, by which his natural parts seem to have been greatly improved. After the death of his father, he was committed to the Tower, for refusing the same oath of supremacy, and condemned; but afterwards pardoned, and set at liberty, which favor he did not long survive.

ON THE ADULTERATION OF WINES.*

AS wine has now become a great object of commerce, the venders of it, especially in great cities, where the avidity of gain is so fertile in artifices, have been induced to adulterate it with different substances, to give it a more beautiful color; to communicate a certain roughness to it, when it happens to be too mild; to make it keep better; to recover it when it begins to be sour, or to correct a great many other faults which it may have contracted. We know that in order to accomplish these different

views, some have employed the smoke of sulphur, a dissolution of alum, gelatinous substances, metallick calces, neutral salts, vegetable juices, &c.—It is needless to enlarge upon these objects, which are well known: it will be sufficient to indicate a few simple processes, by which frauds of this kind may be discovered, and those who are fond of wine, freed from any apprehensions when they drink it.

The most usual fault of wines is, that they turn sour; hence it happens

* Extracted from a small work published at Florence, entitled, *Metodo di conoscere alcune delle piu dannose adulterazioni che si fanno ai vini, &c.*

that recourse is so often had to ceruse, and to litharge, or any other calx of lead, which may absorb the acid, and which besides has the unlucky property of forming with it a sweet salt, known by the name of Sacch. Saturni, or, Sugar of Lead. To discover the presence of this salt, it is well known that a kind of liquor is used, called *liquor vini probatorius*, which may be easily obtained by boiling two ounces of orpiment, and an ounce and a half of quick-lime, in twelve ounces of water. By pouring a little of this liquor into wine adulterated with lead, the wine immediately becomes muddy, and a sediment is formed. Other chemists substitute for this liquor liver of volatile sulphur,* which instantaneously communicates the color of ink to wine in which any calx of lead has been dissolved.

Chemistry teaches us different methods of discovering whether wine be adulterated by means of sulphur, and if it is mixed with alum; but a simple and infallible one is that which barites or ponderous earth furnishes us. It is well known that this earth has the property of uniting with vitriolic acid, whether it finds it separate or combined with salts, and by this union it forms a white powder, which precipitates to the bottom of the vessel. To prove wine adulterated with sulphur, alum, or any other vitriolic salt, it will be necessary to use only a solution† of ponderous earth, made by vinegar or tartar. As soon as a little of this solution is poured into wine of that kind, it will become muddy, and the white powder of which we have spoken, will be seen pre-

cipitating to the bottom. This method of proof is easy, and within the reach of every body.

To discover in general the existence of any metallic substance, which may have been mixed in wine, either in the state of calx, or combined with some mineral acid, phlogisticated alkali may be used, that is to say, the mineral alkali (soda), or potash, which has been long boiled in a sufficient quantity of water, with three parts of Prussian blue to one of alkali. If a little of this liquor be poured upon wine not adulterated, no sudden change is produced, but if any metallic substance has been dissolved in it, the alkaline liquor produces an immediate precipitation, which assumes an earthy appearance, and may be of various colors.

The different substances of which we have before spoken, and which may be employed to adulterate wine, are more or less pernicious according to their nature and properties: this is not the case with the vegetable juices which are sometimes used for colouring wine; such as logwood, the grapes of the phytolaca, the juice of yelbe ‡, the berries of the *croton tinctorium*, &c. We shall not therefore enlarge upon the methods of discovering when they are mixed with wine; it is, however, of importance to be acquainted with the marks of all wines which have been adulterated. The celebrated Scopoli gives the following: "In distilling," says he, "sophisticated wine, or a mixture of this kind with wine of a good quality, a pure extract will be obtained, homogeneous, and of a good colour, but much paler, and always mixed

* To prepare this liver of volatile sulphur, pound in a mortar one part of flour of sulphur, with two parts of sal ammoniac; to this add six parts of quicklime, slaked in the air, mix up the whole with a sufficient quantity of water, and distil it over a slow fire with the proper precautions.

† Barites rarely exists pure in nature, it is found united with vitriolic acid, which forms the ponderous earth. To free it from this state of combination, the barites must be calcined for the space of an hour in a crucible, over a strong fire, after having reduced it to a very fine powder, and added to it a sixth part of its weight of charcoal. This operation being finished, distilled vinegar must be poured over this matter until an effervescence is raised; let it be then filtered, and let the proportion of vinegar be augmented, and you will have the solution of ponderous earth by vinegar, proper for proving wine.

‡ A species of the elder.

"with blackish particles, and destitute of the flavour and smell of the extract of wine not adulterated."

The same naturalist has also observed that, by pouring phlogisticated alkali upon sophisticated wine, there is left at the bottom of the liquor a sediment, which, when separated from it by filtering, and dried slowly in the shade, has a yellow colour, a little inclining to brown.

We may then conclude, that wine is not adulterated by any of the methods above-mentioned, if it becomes green when volatile caustic alkali, or liver of volatile sulphur is added to it; if it does not become muddy by phlogisticated alkali; if it does not precipitate a ponderous white powder with the acid or tartareous solution of barites; and lastly, if, in distilling, no blackish particles are perceived in the dregs.

If curiosity, or some other particular view, should induce any one to ascertain the precise nature of the substance employed to adulterate wine, recourse may be had to various methods. But it will be proper to make a preliminary distinction. We ought to distinguish adulterated wines into four different kinds. Those which contain vitriolic salts, proper for communicating to them a roughness of taste; those in which metallic calces have been dissolved, to restore them when four; those which may have both the faults above-mentioned; and lastly, those compounded of a mixture of spoilt wine with wine of a good quality. To the first kind we must refer those which become muddy, when a little of the acid or tartareous solution of barites is poured upon them, and which discover no change on the addition of phlogisticated alkali. Those which become muddy by phlogisticated alkali, and experience no change by barites, are of the second kind; those which are changed by both of those substances are of the third; and lastly, we must refer to the fourth species, those on which none of those reactives can af-

fect any change, but which, on distillation, leave blackish particles in their dregs.

Vitriolic acid may exist in wine, such as, it detaches itself from sulphur upon combustion, or under the form of vitriolic tartar; or lastly, under that of alum. In the two first cases caustic volatile alkali will render the wine green, and as it were opaque, which will end soon after in a precipitation of the colouring matter of the wine, if it contains pure sulphureous acid, or vitriolic tartar; but if it contains alum, such an alkali will produce no precipitation; on the contrary, it will render the liquor clearer. To distinguish afterwards which of these two methods of adulteration has been used, it will be necessary only to pour into the wine a drop of the dissolution of lime or marble in nitrous acid, and if the wine becomes muddy, and produces a sudden precipitation, it will be a sign that it contains pure sulphureous acid.

Sophisticated wine of the second class, that is to say, wine which contains some metallic substance, and which becomes muddy, by a mixture of phlogisticated alkali, without being changed by a solution of barites, may be examined in the following manner: Put some of it into three different glasses; into the first quantity pour a little phlogisticated alkali; into the second, borax dissolved in water; and into the third, some drops of oil of vitriol, or a strong solution of alum. If, in the first case, a powder of an azure color precipitates, we may be assured that the wine contains iron; and if the precipitation is of a chestnut color, we may conclude that it contains copper. In the second case, if the liquor becomes muddy without precipitating an azure powder, it is a sign that the liquor contains corrosive sublimate. In the third case, if the liquor exhibits none of the preceding phenomena, and if in becoming muddy it produces a white sediment, it is an indication of its containing lead; and if it produces

duces this sediment without becoming muddy, it is much to be feared that it is adulterated with arsenick *.

With regard to wine of the third class, that which becomes muddy by barites and phlogisticated alkali, and which contains both vitriolic salts and metallic substances, it must also be divided into four portions. To the first add a small quantity of the decoction of gall-nuts; to the second, borax; to the third, oil of vitriol; and to the fourth, phlogisticated alkali. If, in the first case, the wine becomes black, it is evident that it contains vitriol. In the second case, if the same wine, which did not become black by the mixture of the gall-nut, becomes muddy by borax, we may conclude that it contains alum or sulphureous acid, either pure or combined, and corrosive sublimate besides. In the third case, if the same wine, which did not appear muddy on the addition of borax, becomes white with oil of vitriol, and if it deposits a sediment of the same color, we may be assured that it contains sulphureous acid, or alum with lead. Lastly, if, in the fourth case, the same wine which did not turn black by the decoction of the gall-nut, and which did not become muddy by oil of vitriol or borax, precipitates a white powder by phlogisticated alkali, it contains either alum, or a neutral vitriolic salt, with a dose of arsenick.

It may be readily conceived, that when different sophistications of wine are united together, they will exhibit all the various phenomena by which they are characterized separately.

Different experiments, no less easy, may serve to discover the nature of those metallic substances above-mentioned, especially when they are confounded together. For example: if in putting a small bit of copper, or a piece of coin of that metal into wine, and leaving it there for some time, the liquor becomes muddy, and if the copper appears as if silvered over, we may be assured that the wine is adulterated with corrosive sublimate. If, on leaving a small polished bright plate of iron in wine, it appears to be changed into copper, that wine is sophisticated with copper, or contains verdigrease. If on burning, on a heated plate of iron, the precipitation obtained from different wines, by means of phlogisticated alkali, it evaporates without any particular smell, it contains mercury; if it exhales a white smoke, accompanied with a smell like that of garlick, it is a sign of its being mixed with arsenick. If there remains a yellowish earth, deprived of smell and volatility, it indicates lead; and if this earth or metallic calx is of a dark-red or black color, it announces iron. Fresh proofs may still be made, by reviving the semetals,

A STRIKING INSTANCE OF TURKISH JUSTICE.

A Merchant of Smyrna had a son, who, after profiting by that confined education which the Turks generally give their children, had risen to the office of *Naib*, that is to say, of Lieutenant to the Cadi, whose principal duty is, to inspect the weights and measures which the merchants use

in commerce. One day as this officer was going his ordinary round, some neighbours of the old merchant, who had long been acquainted with his dishonest dealing, advised him to be prepared for the visit of the *Naib*, and to take care to conceal his weights and measures before he should appear; but

* This adulteration of wine by two dreadful poisons, viz. corrosive sublimate and arsenick, is practised by the Dutch, who transport French wines to distant countries, in order to make them keep. For this purpose they fumigate the inside of the casks with sulphur and rosin, a practice highly dangerous and pernicious.

this old offender, thinking that as the *Naib* was his own son, he would not expose him to public disgrace, instead of following the advice given, fell a laughing, and with great unconcern, waited at the door of his shop for the officer's arrival. The *Naib*, who was not ignorant of his father's character and disposition, and who had often warned him of his danger, and earnestly requested him to change his conduct, resolved at length to make an example of him. Addressing him therefore in a grave tone, "bring me," said he, "your balance and weights, they must be examined publicly." The old merchant assuming a smiling countenance, begged his son to pass on, and to come and dine with him on his return. "No," replied the officer, sternly, "let me first see if your weights are just.—Soldiers, bring me hither immediately his balance and his weights." The father, after having seen his fraudulent weights and measures destroyed, vainly imagined that all was over, and began to console himself for the loss he had sustained, when the *Naib* condemned him, not only to pay a fine of fifty piastres, but to receive as many blows of a stick on the

soles of his feet, which punishment was instantly inflicted, notwithstanding all the tears and cries of the old man.

The son then dismounting from his horse, threw himself at the feet of the merchant, and bursting into tears, "Father," said he, "I have now discharged my duty to my God, to my Sovereign, and to my country. Permit me, with a sigh, to discharge that which I owe to nature. Justice is blind; it is the hand of God upon earth; it knows not parents; you have offended justice; another would have punished you; I am sorry it has fallen to my lot, but my duty is my supreme law.—Let me beseech you to be just for the future, and instead of blaming, pity that son, who, after having several times admonished you, has been compelled by your own fraudulent behaviour and obstinacy to exercise the severity of the law against you."

The Sultan, informed of this adventure, raised the young *Naib* to the office of Cadi; by degrees he was promoted to that of Vizir, and no one in that station ever displayed more prudence, wisdom and justice.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE MANNER OF MAKING HERBALS.

BY THE ABBE HAUY.

FROM THE MEMOIRS OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AT PARIS.*

OF all the productions of nature, there are none more susceptible of change than vegetables, or which require more care and attention for their preservation. Flowers, in particular, soon lose their colors in an herbal, and assume others, quite different from those bestowed upon them by nature. Yellow grows pale, or becomes entirely effaced; blue and red are still more apt to fade or disappear entirely. The flowers of the violet, the campanula, of several species of geranium, and of a multitude of other

plants, which add to the ornament of the fields, and often to that even of our gardens, become, in a few days, so much tarnished, that they cannot be known by any eye but that of the experienced botanist.

This inconvenience I have endeavoured to remedy, at least, in part; and as I found it almost impossible to fix the natural colors of plants, I attempted to discover a method of substituting artificial colors for them which might not fade, so that the flower, by preserving its bloom, and

* For the year 1785, the last volume published.

all its essential characteristics, might in some degree exhibit its natural color. For this purpose, I painted a piece of fine paper with water colors, in such a manner as to have, as much as possible, the same degree of strength as those of nature, only a little fainter, for a reason which I shall mention hereafter. When I had done this, I threw the leaves of the flower into spirits of wine, where they soon lost all their colors, and were reduced to whitish transparent membranes. After having dried them thoroughly, by pressing them between two folds of a fine cloth, I laid them upon the coloured paper, by the means of a thick varnish, which I took care to spread over the paper in order that they might adhere to it. I afterwards drew another paper, several times over the flower, pressing it strongly with my hand, until all the leaves were properly applied, and until the artificial color appeared through them. In this operation, the color becomes a little darker; for which reason, in colouring the paper, it will be necessary to make the tints a little fainter than what they are naturally. I afterwards left the flower a few moments in a press, then, having cut the paper around it, I applied it with a dissolution of gum-arabic to the place it should occupy on the plant which had been before fixed by means of the same dissolution, to a piece of paper of a proper size.

It will be of great service when those flowers even are applied, which have permanent colors, such as the greater part of the wild ranunculuses, to begin by cementing the flowers to a piece of paper, and to cut it round the leaves, as in the preceding case, before they are added to the plant. This operation renders them more na-

tural, and if their position is such, that they cover the leaves of the plant, which will often happen, the color of the leaves does not injure that of the flowers, by appearing through their delicate membranes, which are, in part, diaphanous.

There are some plants, the leaves of which, on account of their thickness and spongy substance, cannot easily be dried, and which become black, before their juices have been extracted by the ordinary mode of drying. Such, among others, are those of the orchis. I have observed that by peeling off, with a pointed knife, the thin pellicle which covers the lower part of these leaves, before I cemented them to the paper, it greatly hastened their deficcation, so that it generally took place in two or three days, and even in a much shorter space of time. The leaves then preserved their verdure in a great measure, or, at least, assumed only a tint inclining a very little to yellow, without ever appearing of that black color which indicates the last degree of decay in a species of productions the most beautiful and pleasing in nature.

I have submitted to the inspection of the academy, the violet, the geranium, and the common poppy of the fields, the artificial colors of which have preserved their lustre for many years. I have added also three species of orchis, the leaves of which, still retain their freshness, after being dried ten years, the summer adonis, and common cinque foil, &c. the natural colors of which have been preserved without any other precaution than the care which I took to dry them between folds of warm paper as speedily as I possibly could, and not to expose them to the air, or to moisture.

CURIOUS ACCOUNT OF A SPANISH PLAY.

THE Spaniards, that is to say the illiterate part of them, are firmly persuaded that St. Catherine

taught theology in the University of Alcalá. To doubt of a fact so well authenticated, would be to expose one's

one's self to the fury of the Inquisition.

The first act of this piece is taken up with the funeral ceremonies of a professor of theology at Alcala. The university attend in a body, to give public testimony of their grief, and the professor's funeral oration is pronounced with great gravity. Next come a troop of students, who form a kind of dance, in which some of them represent the Virtues, and others the Vices. This is not at all surprising upon a theatre, where, in another tragedy, the twelve peers of France, with the Emperor Charlemagne, are introduced; the Cardinals of the sacred college, and sometimes his Holiness himself.

The second act commences with an interview between St. Catherine and the Saviour of the world. "Catherine, my girl," says Jesus, "do you know me?" "Ah! Lord," replies she, "though my eyes should not be able to know you, can my heart not know you?" "Catherine," returns Jesus, "I have chosen you to be an authentic testimony of my greatness. It is even in the weakness of your sex that I will display my power."

Immediately, by virtue of a divine cap which he puts on her head, he infuses into her a knowledge of theology; makes her acquainted with all the subtleties of the schools; inspires her with the talent of disputing categorically, and bestows upon her such a share of assurance, that she is able to silence the most obstinate antagonist, as well as the most subtle philosopher. Jesus then disappears. Catherine, filled with that courage which the presence and conversation of the Saviour infused into her soul, and burning with a desire to attack all the doctors of the university, goes and asks the vacant chair from the governor of the city.

These two acts must prove highly interesting to the audience; but lest they should not perhaps have the same effect on the reader, we shall proceed to the last act of the piece.

In the last act, St. Catherine is seen seated in the professor's chair, disputing with great eloquence against all

those who dare encounter her. The cap performs wonders. Around her stand a number of doctors, in gowns trimmed with furs, whose pride, soon humbled, gives place, though with reluctance, to jealous admiration. Catherine, however, is not entirely triumphant. An old doctor arrives, pale visaged, and almost bent to the earth, whose presence revives hope in the hearts of the vanquished. Every eye is fixed upon this old champion; but nobody knows him. He is, indeed, no other than the devil—a being ever ready to thwart, in every thing, the designs and power of our Saviour.

He approaches slowly, with a large pair of spectacles on his nose, an evident testimony of his great ability; his long robe sweeps the hall; but it is too short to cover an enormous tail, which he in vain attempts to conceal. Satan is now known; and the whole assembly wait with equal impatience and fear to see the issue of a combat, from which they dare not hope that Catherine will extricate herself with too much honor.

The cautious demon advances, and a thesis is presented him, "on the immortality of the soul." This he denies, and supports his assertion with great art and address; but Catherine, after having suffered him to run on for some time, at length silences him by the following argument: "Orpheus went down to hell, therefore the soul is immortal." Behold the devil foiled! the whole assembly testify their applauses, and a thousand voices repeat, "He is confounded! he is confounded!"

The poor devil is now hissed and hooted at, and obliged to fly from the hands of the enraged multitude, who pursue him with great fury.

The company then proceed with much triumph to install Catherine into the distinguished and honorable office of Professor in Theology, and the ceremony concludes with a grand ball, at which all the citizens of Alcala dance, together with their wives; and they oblige all the members of the University to dance along with them.

SOME

SOME PARTICULARS CONCERNING MR. VAILLANT'S JOURNEY
TO THE INTERIOR PARTS OF AFRICA.

THIS learned naturalist, who has resided five years in the southern parts of Africa, departed from the Cape of Good Hope with three waggons, each drawn by ten oxen, in order to make observations in natural history and botany. Several dogs, a cock, and an ape followed. Among his baggage he carried three hundred pounds of lead, and powder in proportion, to make cartouches. Ten Hottentots, whose language he understands, accompanied him. He had abundance of provisions, and a sufficient quantity of strong liquors. Attended by this train, he passed, without any danger, through the territories of different petty sovereigns; after which he found only hordes, who received him with much friendship, and who often put themselves under his protection. These tribes are Nomades, or wandering people, who sojourn in one part of the country no longer than while they find provisions: they often emigrate, and sometimes to a great distance. The country through which he travelled was rude in its aspect, and so difficult to be passed, that his attendants were obliged, from time to time, to cut down the wood, in order to make a passage. When he had advanced a great way into the country, he met with whole herds of elephants, which were first observed in a cop-pice, by a Hottentot who had climbed up a tree. The African having remarked one separated from the rest, Mr. Vaillant made a circuit, in order to get a better view of the animal, which he saw shake its head; for the elephant, when motionless, amidst the obscurity, appeared to him like a rock. He fired at it, and the ball of his carabine penetrating its forehead, killed it upon the spot. Mr. Vaillant, however, had the prudence, be-

fore he fired, to point out the cop-pice to his Hottentots, giving them orders to set fire to the bushes, and to the dry and long grass which surrounded it, as it is well known that elephants may always be put to flight by fire. This traveller killed five others at the bottom of a rock, to which he had retired, in order to avoid danger: he dispatched them with the greater facility, as the whole troop in their flight were obliged to pass within musket-shot of the place where he stood. He killed also five cam-leopards, one of which animals was brought to Paris*.

He remarked, that the lion when not hungry flies from man; but one bolder than the rest stopped and gazed upon him, with a look full of majestic dignity, which Mr. Vaillant returned with equal firmness and intrepidity, without turning aside, and without attempting to fly.

This botanical traveller had a cock with him, to serve him instead of a watch, in case his time-keeper should be deranged; and an ape, to taste the fruits and provisions, that he might know those which were fit to be eaten. This wise precaution, perhaps, saved him from being poisoned. The cock followed, searching out his way during the whole journey; and the ape, to refresh itself, sometimes got upon the back of one of the large dogs, with which he lived in the greatest harmony.

Mr. Vaillant, who employed five years in this journey, has brought with him a curious and valuable collection of plants, engravings of which are now executing. He has travelled over a considerable part of Africa in the course of this expedition, and viewed many curious objects, which no other European ever had an opportunity of examining.

* Few of these animals have ever been seen alive in Europe. They were formerly shewn at Rome as great curiosities. Suidas observes, that Cæsar was the first who exhibited one of them to the Roman people. Several of them attended the triumphant entry of the Emperor Aurelian.

CONJECTURES CONCERNING WIND AND WATER-SPOUTS, TORNADOS AND HURRICANES.

BY DOCTOR JOHN PERKINS, OF BOSTON.

FROM TRANSACTIONS OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

WITH respect to water-spouts, what I am about to consider is, whether water ascends or descends in these bodies? A question which it is reasonable to think should be determined by facts, and the nature of things; and concerning which, if we wish to attain to any certainty, we must be careful not to be misled by such appearances and imaginations, as have hitherto commanded the general belief.

Agreeable to this method of inquiry, I shall, in the first place, produce the observations of three or four persons, in whom I can confide for simplicity and honesty of intention.

The first is that of Captain Mel-ling, formerly of Boston, who informed me, that in a voyage from the West-India islands, in the month of August, in a warm day just at evening, a spout fell close by the vessel, and in two or three seconds of time, came across the stern where he then was. A flood of water, as he expressed it, poured upon him, and almost beat him down, so that he was obliged to lay hold of what was nearest to him, to prevent being washed overboard, which in his fright he was apprehensive of. But the spout immediately passed off with a roaring noise into the sea. I asked him if he tasted the water? "Taste it!" said he, "I could not help tasting it, it ran into my mouth, nose, eyes and ears." "Was it then fresh or salt?" "As fresh," said he, "as ever I tasted spring water in my life."

The next account I had was from Captain John Wakefield, also of Boston, which was, that being just within the straits of Gibraltar, a spout fell close by his ship with a great roaring, which he heard as he was sitting in the

cabbin, the men upon deck immediately crying out for him to come up, which he instantly did, and saw it travelling away before the ship, so near that he plainly saw the water descend. His men assured him that it did so from the beginning. He told me the wind was very small during the operation of it.

Captain John Howland, of the same town, told me that in passing the calm latitudes, a spout fell so near that he evidently saw the water descend, very contrary to his former opinion concerning these bodies.

Mr. Samuel Spring, of the same town, told me that in a voyage from India, in passing the straits of Malacca, a spout fell by estimation about fifty yards from his ship; the appearance of which was that of a column of water; or rather a stream of almost contiguous drops, from the cloud down into the sea, making a great froth in the place like water falling among rocks, as he expressed it. He said it was extremely plain that the water descended. One of the ship's crew was with him when he gave me this account, and confirmed it.

Many other accounts I have had from those who have seen spouts, but so indeterminate as not to be worth much notice; I therefore content myself with the above, which speak for themselves.

In the next place, I shall make a few remarks on Mr. Stuart's figures of spouts, which he took in the Mediterranean, as they are to be seen in the Philosophical Transactions of London, Le Moite's Abridgment; particularly on the pointing to the place of spattering in the water, and the great roar that attends the operation of a large spout; the bush about the foot or base of a great
Z spout;

spout; the break or partition in the trunk of it at the top of the bush; and the pillar-like appearance within the bush.

First, I shall endeavour to give some idea of the nature and cause of the pointing, by the external and apparent means that nature uses in the production of a spout; for as to the intimate operations of nature, our faculties cannot reach them. Two or three observations I suppose will readily be granted, and shorten my work.

One is, that those places where the lower region of air is drawn away on one or both sides, either by the heat of neighbouring continents, or in the calm latitudes, from which it passes away into, and for the supply of the equatorial expanse, are likely to be the places most liable to spouts.

In the next place, I expect it will be granted that the air is much colder in the upper regions, and of consequence, specifically heavier than that near the surface, by which when there are little or no differing motions of the air (i. e. winds) in or about the region of the clouds, particular spots of air and vapour in the cloud, may be disposed to descend, and, when so, will very aptly take a particular channel downwards. These things being granted, what is of a like kind will readily be so disposed too; as when the atmosphere is full of vapours condensing into clouds, this condensation may be quicker in one place than in another, which by the acquired cold, will become more weighty, and press most in a particular point. Thus it may descend through the more rarified and yielding subjacent region; the first drops piercing and making a channel, may facilitate the descent of the vapour, till it puts on what Stuart calls a sword-like appearance. The agitation caused by descending will accelerate condensation, which together with the drops passing through the vapour in this channel, may at every stop in the passage be wasting the vapour, by taking it up into lesser masses of water, till it ends in a point, which it will in this case naturally do, be-

cause the swiftest motion down, is in the centre of the pointing body.

Such a spout may increase so as to form masses of water, the substance of the cloud, all obstacles removed, passing down in greater abundance, and still more swiftly condensing; or it may presently cease when it has but just appeared, or instead of this, make, as it were, several attempts for completing a spout, the vapour teat advancing and retiring alternately, but which finally fail, without producing effect. Thus it has done, as it seems, when the cloud has not had sufficient supplies for it to succeed in a complete and opaque spout. Such are the appearances of Mr. Stuart's figures, &c. The obliquity of the pointing is owing to the course of the air, as the bend is to two different ones at different heights.

The next thing proposed to be considered, was the great roar that attends a complete spout while it lasts; and it is the same as that in cataracts or falls of water from great eminences. This kind of roar could not exist in any way of ascent, being very different from that of a whirlwind, which is no other than that of any other strong wind.

Mr. Stuart's figures of the great spouts are drawn with the appearance of a bush round their bases: The case is such, that great falls of water must make a proportionable spray; so that the appearance is natural, and indeed a necessary consequence. It rises up from the foot of the spout, and falls back in a parabolic manner into the sea. As was said of the roar just now, so it may be said of this, that it could not have existed in any conceivable way of ascent; while on the contrary it is perfectly agreeable to nature on the principle of descent. It continues the whole time of a large spout, increasing and diminishing as it does.

The appearance of a break or partition in the trunk of the spout, at the top of the bush, is a very curious phenomenon: it is not real but apparent, and

and could not have happened without the bush ; it being caused by a refraction of rays from the drops that constitute the top of the bush ; whence a divergency and so much loss of vision.

In great spouts there is also a pillar-like appearance, being a part of the trunk within the bush, and by another refraction through the side of the bush ; by which it appears much bigger than it is, and limited in altitude by the break. The three last are agreeable to the laws of optics ; and all the five particulars being attendants on the greater or the smaller spouts, are to me undeniable evidences of the universal descent of waters in these bodies. I pass from Mr. Stuart's figures to that of Mr. Maine, which is not less curious.

Mr. Maine, in the same Philosophical Transactions, has given us the figure of a spout that fell at Topham, near Exeter. He has depicted it in the act of striking a boat as it passed a creek ; from the bottom of which he has drawn a rebound of the whole body of the spout projected from it to a large distance ; evidently proving the descent : and which, while he is arguing for the ascent, it would have much become him to have accounted for, and to have shown how it agreed with the doctrine of ascent. The spout proceeding passed on to the land, and brake off the limbs of a tree, beat the thatch off a house, and did perhaps various other damage ; but we hear nothing of its carrying up any of the light substances, and dropping them at great distances, far from any environs of the place, which it would most certainly have done had there been a whirlwind, or any supernal suction employed in the operation.

The supernal suction which some have mentioned, I suppose I may pass over without more than the bare mention of it, but whirlwinds we know there are frequently, and some of considerable strength ; so that it being the general opinion that spouts are formed by them, it may not be amiss to examine a little what force they may rea-

sonably be allowed to have, and the limits of it.

Their genuine cause, supposing them to be natural productions, is no other than the ascent of the heated and consequently lighter air, at the surface, into, or through the colder, and consequently heavier regions of the atmosphere above : and in proportion to the different degrees of heat in one of these, and cold in the other, may the strength of these be, but no more.

Dr. Arbuthnot, in his treatise on the air, tells us, that the rarification of the air in the hottest day in summer renders it but one-tenth lighter than that of the coldest in winter, or in words to this purpose, if I remember right, for I have not his book by me. Supposing then the upper region the same at all times as the lower one in winter when a whirlwind happens, it cannot have any greater force than the weight of one-tenth of the atmosphere, and considering the resistance to its rising which it must encounter, and the friction by the way, not so much ; by which the strength may not be equal to three feet of water. It is undoubtedly nine parts in ten too weak to make a vacuum, and having a column of water two miles high to support, besides the additional necessity of still more force to drive it swiftly up, would require an atmosphere two thousand times more weighty than ours to raise water to the clouds.

Mr. Stuart says, he saw the water ascend in the heart of a spout ; which seems to have been an unlucky expression. The bodies of large spouts are too gross and opaque for any one to see to the centre of them ; and no one has ever pretended to have seen water ascend in the small ones. His imagination therefore must have been too strong for any one to confide in, as he was so far prejudiced ; and at least one of his views was to prove the ascent ; which, had he understood nature in a tolerable degree, he would have renounced.

That there is a gyrating appearance in the great spouts, seems to have been matter of observation ; nor is there any improbability in the thing. As

air passing up in whirlwinds, so water, or air, passing down may gyrate; and no doubt it does. The case is, that some have imagined the gyration to have been upwards: but the appearance of gyration up or down may easily deceive, as any one may be convinced by observing the swift turning of artificial screws, in which the direction will appear as the person is disposed to fancy it.

We are told the answer of the Chinese sailors to the question, "What are you 'afraid of in spouts?" is, that they may break in their decks. Which shows they take them to be descents; and their knowledge is from observation and experience.

I conclude with one short remark, viz. That to believe water ascends in these bodies, to the region of the clouds, is virtually to admit of a real and essential miracle, without sufficient proof; and contrary to every idea we can form of a divinely wise intention.

Tornados and hurricanes I take to be of the same general nature, although differing in some circumstances and appearances.

By the term tornado, or wind-spout, I mean a violent wind which has been observed in these northern colonies, a few times, since they were discovered and settled by our people. But perhaps no part of the terraqueous globe is entirely free from something of the like kind, as the atmosphere is every where liable to similar commotions.

The Spanish term of tornado, seems to have been chiefly used for a violent storm at sea, of larger extent than what I am about to explain, which is of a more contracted nature, and confined to a narrow sphere of action; so that it requires a particular and significant name, such as wind-spout, till a more suitable one is found for it.

Description of one. It begins of a sudden; more or less of clouds having been drawn together, a spout of wind coming from it, strikes the ground in a round spot, of a few rods or perches diameter, with a prone direction, in

the course of the wind of the day, and proceeds thus half a mile or a mile. The proneness of its descent makes it rebound from the earth, throwing such things as are moveable before it, but some sideways from it. A vapour, mist, or rain descends with it, by which the path of it is marked and wet.

I shall produce the instance of that at Leicester, a town about fifty miles from Boston, a few years since, which being more violent than usual, may give some idea of the thing.

It happened in the month of July, on a hot day about four o'clock P. M. A few clouds having gathered westward and coming over head, a sudden motion of their running together in a point being observed, immediately a spout of wind struck the ground at the western end of a house, and instantly carried it away, with a negro fellow in it, who was afterwards found dead in the path of it. Two men and a woman, by the breach of the floor, fell into the cellar; one man was driven forcibly up into the chimney-corner. These were preserved, though much bruised; they were wet with a vapour or mist, as were the remains of the floor, and the whole path of the spout.

This wind raised boards, timbers, &c. and carried them before it. A joist was found on one end driven near three feet into the ground. I imagine the spout took it in its elevated state and drove it forcibly down. By what I can learn of its procedure, it continued but three or four seconds of time in a place, passing along with the celerity of a middling wind, constantly declining in strength till it ceased.

There seems to have been such a gust as this at cape Cod, about forty years ago, of which I received an account from two men who lived in the neighbourhood of the place. It came on of a sudden, and was so violent, that it threw down a young woman who happened to be in the way of it; she was forced to lay hold on the bushes which happened to be within her reach, to prevent her being carried away

away by it. It passed a pond of water, and the people wondered it did not suck up the water, as they conceived it to be a water-spout, but it did not. The young woman was, however, wet with the vapour that accompanied it.

Of hurricanes, particularly those of the West-India Islands.

To account satisfactorily for these convulsions of our atmosphere, requires a greater number of observations and some more circumstantial than we are at present furnished with; so that all that can at present be said of their origin and causes must be very conjectural. However, since an attempt to explain them may give occasion to further and more exact observations, I shall proceed to offer my present thoughts concerning them.

I believe those of the West-India islands to be owing to some occasional obstruction in the usual and natural procedure of the equatorial trade. This I conjecture from the more than usual preceding calms. In the natural course of this trade the air rises up at the line and passes off towards the poles, and, in the more contracted degrees of the greater latitudes, proves the course of their western trades: so that could this ascent be prevented through the whole circle of that zone, there would be no more westerly winds in these latitudes than any others.

Over violent rains and cold naturally tend to check the ascent of air out of this circle, rather making it descend. And as there are annual rains at the equator over against those islands, and in some years more than others, it is easy to conceive such an effect, and the consequences. Great clouds and over-much vapour generate cold and weight, while at the same time the rains are beating down the air; and as these prevent the rising of the air out of the line, so they hinder its usual progress to it from the tropics on both sides. Thus calms must take place; by which the natives used to predict approaching hurri-

canes, without understanding the reason of the thing.

Much of calms in the inter-tropical climates cause rarifications, and ascents of air into the upper regions, instead of its being carried to the line to be disposed of in the grand circulation of the atmosphere; this will be the case more especially among the islands, which increase the heat of the atmosphere. Then by these ascents there will be accumulations of air above, which becoming cold in the higher regions will acquire a greater specific weight, and be disposed to descend on the first giving way of the more rarified and yielding subjacent region; and this will be the case when there happens not to be sufficient motions of air in the middle region to keep smooth and even the strata of the more and the less rarified regions; and so prevent particular portions and places from bending downwards; and it is this alone that does prevent it. By a failure in this, a descent once begun, the consequences cannot be prevented: the heavy quantity above will continue to descend till all the upper cold regions are exonerated to many hundreds of miles round; and all their contents shifted into the place of the rarified and lighter air below.

Such are my ideas of the causes and operations of a hurricane in those climates. I have only to add here, that the rains in these violent storms are, as I think, a strong confirmation of the doctrine of descent; as they are in that kind of hurricane, called by sailors the Ox's Eye, on the coast of Guinea; and the like happens under various names in different parts of our globe. Even the wind in our thunder-gusts is from descent; the air in the cloud being rendered dense and weighty, descends, and flows in the direction of the wind of the time, and with the more violence, by the warm air at the surface giving way to it. These are sometimes strong, but seldom attended with danger or damage.

What objections may be raised against these opinions, shall be candidly

didly attended to; in the mean time there is one objection that must be obviated, the argument being somewhat interested in it. It is as follows.

Having expressed my opinion that hurricanes and tornados, or wind-spouts, have the same general nature, while we see a great disparity in their magnitude and procedure, some explanation seems necessary to prevent mistakes; I think a little consideration of the place, climate, and circumstances may remove the difficulty.

The earth is an oblate spheroid, its diameter many miles greater at the equator than at the poles, caused by its diurnal centrifugal force. If this then has so great an effect on terraqueous matter, it cannot have less on our air, but if any difference, rather more; especially if we consider that the atmosphere makes a larger diameter, and yet revolves in the same time, so that its centrifugal force must be proportionably greater. The diurnal motion of the earth tends to throw a vast surplus of air on the equator, by which there is probably more air between the tropics than on the rest of the globe. But this is a matter of conjecture not to be perceived by any sort of pressure any more than by the barometer, for reasons obvious to those conversant in the nature and effect of the several principles. However, it might not be amiss to observe, whether there be any difference in the height of the mercury before any of these storms. But to return.

Although the air in the inter-tropical latitudes is in general lighter than in the remote ones, yet when the upper air has obtained a passage downward, being vast in quantity, and occupying great space, it will be long in accelerating and passing down. The

passage is long, so that it will gain a great deal of the force we find it has by the length of descent. Neither will the middle region be disposed to shut up without a brisk wind in it, before the whole, even to remote regions, is discharged through the large hiatus, as before mentioned, and now repeated, to account for the duration and extent of these otherwise wonderful winds, with such unrelenting violence.

Far different is the case of the high latitude tornados in their circumstances, and their manner, although agreeing in their general nature. The centrifugal force here has extremely little effect, unless to cast the atmosphere toward the equator, instead of raising or increasing its quantity over any given place on either side. Besides, there is the attraction of the sun, moon, and all the other planets for ever within the tropics, attracting the atmosphere that way, and lessening the height of the high latitude atmosphere, which therefore may be supposed not a fourth so high from the surface as that.

Since then the atmosphere is vastly less in height, and also much less in quantity than toward the line, the descents must naturally be very different. Here are no accumulations aloft. The quantity ready for a discharge downward is vastly less, and the passage narrow and contracted; and by the almost constant motions of air, were there more supplies it would soon shut up. Besides, there is little aptness to flow from surrounding regions by reason of the smallness of their depth, &c. And yet so great is the specific weight of what descends, that the first assault has been known to equal the greatest violence of the proper hurricanes in their most powerful moments.

SOME ACCOUNT OF MR. RISBECK, AUTHOR OF LETTERS ON
GERMANY, BY A FRENCH TRAVELLER.

SINCE the progress which the Germans have made in literature, and the number of excellent produc-

tions they have given to the public, have excited other nations to study their language, and translate their works,

works, the loss of distinguished German authors cannot appear a matter of indifference in Europe. Great men and good writers belong to every country, and the celebrated Buffon is lamented in England, Italy, and Russia, as well as in France. Literary men ought to be considered as a family, for the use of which all its members display the richness of their imagination; and the loss of one of these members, of whatever nation, must be sincerely regretted by the survivors.

Mr. Gaspard Risbeck was born in the year 1750, in a small village near Mayence. His father was a merchant at Eukst, and enjoyed a pretty considerable fortune. Those who have called him a baron have been mistaken. Risbeck was not a man of quality; but he was something better—he was a man of genius. Being destined for the profession of the law, he was sent to Mayence, in order to prosecute his studies. This science, however, was ill suited to the disposition of young Risbeck; he possessed too warm an imagination, and too lively a disposition for the dry, but necessary study of the law. He often went to hear the lectures of his professors, with Werter or the immortal poem of the Messiah in his pocket; and retiring into a corner, instead of attending to those precepts by which the rights of citizens are secured, he indulged in soft pity for the fate of the unfortunate Charlotte, or transported by Klopstock, soared in idea even to the Supreme Being.

Obliged to devote himself to a study to which he had a determined aversion, the first years of his application were not attended with much success, and the term prescribed for the course of his education arrived before he had begun his studies. Germany about this period was unluckily over-run with a sect, whose dangerous principles procured too many converts: they called themselves, by way of excellence, *the Sect of Geniuses*, (*das Genieesen*). Their fundamental principles were a sovereign contempt

of all social relation, and to have no concern with any business whatever. The sublime minds of its members considered all employments, political engagements, and duties which required continual application, as far beneath them; in short, liberty was the chimerical idol they adored, and to which they sacrificed every thing real. A society founded upon such principles, and which acquired a consequence by some celebrated names, must naturally flatter youth, always ready to avoid every restraint, however slight it may be. The enthusiasm of its partizans seemed to have no bounds, and multitudes of young people hastened to range themselves under the banners of the heads of this sect.

Risbeck was not among the last who joined these new philosophers; but he soon repented of having suffered himself to be carried away by the warmth of his imagination. Obligated, according to the principles of his sect, to despise that situation for which his father had intended him, he soon dissipated the little patrimony left him, and saw himself reduced, at length, to the necessity of becoming a pensioner of the booksellers; and thus, by pursuing an ideal liberty, he fell into the most abject slavery. Plunged into a state of perfect apathy, misfortunes at length awakened him, and, by removing his lethargy restored him to letters, to which he seemed to have been lost.

Risbeck quitted his native country, and established himself at Saltzbourg, where he commenced his literary career, by publishing the second and third volumes of *Letters on the Monks*. The first volume of this work, which is attributed to Mr. De la Roche, made a great noise: its principal object was to display the conduct of the Monks in the Catholic countries of Germany; the manner in which they endeavoured to fix prejudices in the minds of the people, in order that they might make them more obedient to their yoke; and to rescue them from that ignorance in which they were

were kept. Risbeck, who had already traversed Germany, and who was then collecting materials for his travels, which he published some years afterwards, had been an eye-witness of their conduct. He undertook therefore to continue this work, and the two volumes which he published had more success than the first. He however wished to make it be believed that they were the productions of the same pen, by imitating the style of Mr. De la Roche; but this deception could impose only on the vulgar. The literati perceived, in the continuation, a writer, bolder in his views, and more nervous in his style; and, in spite of the veil he had assumed, the secret was soon made public.

Risbeck, always passionately fond of travelling, wished to see Switzerland, and retired to Zurich, where he took up his abode for some time: there he assisted in superintending the publication of the celebrated Political Gazette of that city, and published his travels, under the title of "Letters on Germany, by a French Traveler*." If Risbeck, in his first work, distinguished himself as a careful observer, he shewed himself in the latter to be an original genius, a deep thinker, and an elegant writer. It is needless to enlarge upon the merit of these letters; the manner in which they were received by the public may determine what judgment we are to form of them.

The literary success which Mr. Risbeck enjoyed during his life-time ended here: he quitted Zurich, and retired to the village of Arau, where he lived very reclusive. His misfortunes had soured his temper; a gloomy melancholy soon obscured his ideas, and induced him in some measure to become a misanthrope. Towards the close of his life he frequented no other society than what he found in obscure taverns. Gesner and Lavater in vain employed the most lively solicitations to induce him to return to Zurich, and offered to assist him with their credit and purses; but he still rejected their generous benevolence, and persisted in that new kind of life which he had adopted.

Risbeck, however, wrote in his retirement, *A History of Germany*, in which he traced all the revolutions of that country with the same spirit of independence, and in the same nervous style, as he displayed in his other works. He had nearly reached the end of his labour, and was about to enjoy the fruits of it, when he was cut off in the flower of his age. He died at Arau on the 5th of February, 1786. His *History of Germany* has been published by Mr. Vinkopp, who finished it in such a manner, as fully justifies the high ideas which were entertained of his abilities and talents. A translation of it, by Mr. Doray de Lougrais, was announced in the Paris Journal of May 9th.

AN HISTORICO-BOTANICAL DISSERTATION ON THE MANDRAGORA.

BY M. GRANIER, OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF NISMES.

THE mandragora, more celebrated by the superstition of old women, and the deception of quacks, than by its medicinal qualities, belongs to the species of narcotic plants. The strong smell which it exhales, seems to prove it, and for this reason

it was always considered by the ancients as the most deadly of all poisons.

The mandragora has received various names, either from its surprising qualities, and the form of its roots and fruit, or from the places where it

* A translation of this work, from the original German, by the late Mr. Maty, has been published by Cadell, in the Strand.

grows. The Greeks called it *Circe*, on account of its pretended magical virtues, and Pythagoras gives it the name of *anthropomorphon*; because its root has a rude resemblance to the lower extremities of a man. Others have named it *morion*, from the property remarked in it of bringing on sleep, or of stupifying those who used it. It has been called also *dogs-apple*, because those who eat of it have died mad; and *devils-apple*, on account of the infamous purposes to which it was employed: and, lastly, the *mandragora*; because it is fond of growing in dark shady places, such as the entrance of hollow dens and caverns.

There are two species of this plant, known in botany under the name of *atropa mandragora*—LIN. The male, or the white; and the female, or the black. Both of them are originally from Spain and Italy, where they grow in cool moist places, and especially in the neighbourhood of rivers. Their roots, which in the male are of a white, and in the female of a brown colour, have an exact resemblance to each other; they are long and thick, shaped like a spindle, forked or cleft into two, and covered with small short roots, which spring out from them: they penetrate very deep into the earth.

The male species, which botanists call *mandragora mas seu candida*, *mandragora fructu rotundo*, shoots forth a great number of large leaves, like those of the beet: they have a fetid smell; are about a foot and a half in length; pointed at the extremity; of a bright green colour; and, like the flowers, covered with small bristles, somewhat rough to the touch. The flowers, which grow upon long pedicles, are monopetalous; shaped like a bell, and cut into five notches on the edges as well as the calyx: they are of a white colour, and appear in great numbers, but separated: they have generally five stamina, and a pistil. The fruit which succeeds them is soft, round, and pulpy: it resembles an apple; is of a golden yellow colour, and has a dis-

agreeable smell. It contains from thirty to fifty, and even sixty seeds; flat, and of a reddish colour, shaped like a kidney, and somewhat larger than lentils.

The female mandragora, known under the name of *mandragora femina, seu nigra mandragora flore subcaeruleo purpurascens*, has smaller and narrower leaves than those of the male species: they are hairy, blackish, and wrinkled; undulated on the edges, and have a great resemblance to the leaves of the borage, when it is well cultivated. The flowers differ from those of the male only in their purple colour. The fruit, which is of a deep yellow, is less, and has not so disagreeable a smell. It is of a longish oval figure, much like the fruit of the service-tree, and contains a great number of round, flat seeds.

Both these plants, without stalks, shoot forth leaves in spring, and often sooner, if the winter has been favorable and mild. The flowers appear soon after, and the fruit, which never fails to succeed them every year, ripens in summer. It is to be remarked, that the female is more forward; its exterior colour is darker; and that its root is shorter and thicker than that of the male species.

The use of this plant, which the ancients extended very much, has been abandoned by the moderns, because its violent properties, which are common to all its parts, make it extremely dangerous. I have already said, that its strong and disagreeable smell, like that of opium, renders it one of the most powerful and stupefying of narcotics: the bark of its root possesses that quality in an eminent degree. It is also a strong purgative, which brings on convulsions, and of which the smallest dose occasions weakness. Its leaves have the property of being attenuating, resolute, and discutive. They may be used externally, mixed up in cataplasms with other substances of a more oily nature, both to allay the sharp pain of inflammations, and to dissolve

hard scirrous tumours. The fruit is possessed of the same properties; the pulp of which, together with the juice squeezed from the roots, when mixed with oil, wine, milk, or honey, was given by the ancients to patients whose gangrened limbs they were obliged to cauterise, or cut off, in order that, by stupefying them, they might not be sensible of the pain occasioned by the operation. Every one knows that the most simple opiates, much milder, and much less dangerous, are at present employed for the same purpose.

It will not be necessary to enlarge much upon the medicinal virtues of the mandragora: those who are desirous of more particular information on that head, may consult ancient authors, who have been very lavish in their praises of it. Avicenna, Dioscorides, Galen, Pliny, Renodeus, Theophrastus, and Bauhin, are among this number. It will be sufficient only to say with the moderns, that the use of it internally ought altogether to be abandoned, until the physicians of Vienna, who seem to have devoted themselves in a particular manner to the study of poisonous plants, have assured us, by certain experiments, that it may be used internally, with equal safety and advantage to mankind. We ought, therefore, to confine ourselves at present to applying it externally, in cases of cutaneous disorders, hard tumours, swellings in the ears, the king's evil, &c.

In the Transactions of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Sweden several interesting observations may be seen on this subject, by Frederic Hoffberg; those of Schapperus and Linnæus have demonstrated the efficacy of the mandragora in allaying the pains of the gout. I must not here omit an important remark of Linnæus, who says, that all those plants which have a nauseous and stinking smell are endued with dangerous qualities; such as fox-glove, hen-bane, tobacco, solanum, stramonium, and several others.

If plants of the mandragora are sometimes found in places in which they might be least expected, this undoubtedly must be attributed to the transportation of the seeds mixed with others, to their being deposited in the dung of certain animals, or by any other cause; but, above all, by the action of the winds. It is well known at present, that the blackbird and the thrush procure us the mistletoe and the juniper tree; and plants have often been seen to spring up from the excrements of animals, many of which have afterwards become vigorous trees. It is also owing to the powerful action of the winds, that we daily see exotic plants growing in our climates; such as the *Erigeron Canadense*—LIN. which is naturalized in Europe, and of which abundance is to be found in our fields. There are several other plants also, which the currents of rivers, the lightness of their seeds, and an infinitude of other causes, not necessary to be mentioned here, convey to distant climes, where they grow in places in which they were not expected.

It seems difficult to conceive why the mandragora among the ancients was supposed to be the cause of certain remarkable prodigies; why they considered it as a powerful philtre, and as a magical plant, which had the property of rendering those happy who had it in their possession; of making people find money; of procuring fecundity to women; of presaging the severity or mildness of winter; of driving away forcerers; of softening ivory when boiled with it, so as to render it malleable; and why, in a word, they ascribed to it a variety of other marvellous properties, which could have been only the inventions of superstition and folly. Why should men create a number of chimerical phenomena, when so many exist founded on truth and experience? Indeed, if we lay aside the physical, economical, and medical use of plants, and consider them only as agreeable and surprising objects, who is there who is not astonished on observing

observing the motions of the sensitive plant, of the *bedysarum gyrans*, and the emission of phosphoric matter from the *fraxinella*? Phenomena equally true and surprising, and to which childish superstition has not given birth.

But if the ancients ascribed miraculous properties to the mandragora which we cannot admit, they were not, however, ignorant of its real qualities. They knew that its fruit was narcotic and dangerous, either when eaten, or when smelt too long. Hence comes the proverb, which says of those who are stupid and silly, that they have slept under the madragora*. Annibal was well acquainted with the power of this plant, since we are informed by Frontinus†, that he mixed the juice of the mandragora with the wine he had left in his camp, in order that the rebellious Africans, with whom he had to contend, might come and drink of it when he pretended to abandon his baggage. This stratagem was attended with complete success; for the narcotic wine having operated upon the enemy as was expected, the Carthaginian general put them all to the sword. Plutarch bestows so great power upon this plant, that he affirms, that those who drank wine made from trees growing in the neighbourhood of it always slept very soundly.

But the most surprising thing related by the ancients of the mandragora is its prolific virtue, of which they have given us a number of examples. Certain commentators on the bible have been so firmly persuaded of the truth of them, that they tell us, when speaking of the sterility of Rachel, that she became

fruitful after she had received the mandrakes which Reuben, the son of her sister Leah, had gathered for her in the fields: for this reason they translate the Hebrew word *Dudaim* by mandrake, or the mandragora. The *Dudaim*, however, is a kind of sweet-smelling gourd, very agreeable to the taste, called by Linnæus *Cucumis Dudaim*, which has made several commentators say, that by the word *Dudaim* we are not to understand the mandragora, but a species of gourd, or any other agreeable fruit: according to Calmet, it is the citron.

I shall not speak of those rude allegorical figures, made more commonly of the roots of the reed or briony than of those of the mandragora, which quacks and mountebanks sell to the public, under pretence of their having, among the number of their marvellous properties, that of rendering women fruitful. Such bare-faced effrontery highly deserves to be punished; and it would be employing one's time to little purpose, to shew the fallacy of so ridiculous an assertion. Before I conclude I must however observe, that the distinction of male and female is very improperly given to these plants, since they have the property of propagating singly, being of that kind which botanists have called hermaphrodites. For this reason, the great Linnæus has not adopted the ancient denomination. It is besides certain, that they have other characteristic and unequivocal marks, by which they are easily distinguished, either in their leaves, flowers, or fruit; which shews them to be very remote from those which have two different sexes, and which in botany are called *dioecique*. The willow, the

* Qui dormitant in negotio sub Mandragora dormire dicuntur.

† Mr. Granier seems here to have fallen into a mistake; it was not Annibal, but Maherbal, who employed the stratagem alluded to. The story is thus related by Frontinus, b. ii. c. 5. Maherbal, missus a Carthaginienſibus adverſus Aphros rebellantes, cum ſciret gentem avidam eſſe vini, magnum ejus modium Mandragoræ permiscuit, cujus inter venenum ac ſoporem media vis eſt: tunc prælio levi commiſſo ex industria ceſſit; nocte deinde intempeſta, relictis intra caſtra quibuſdam ſarcinis, et omni vino infecto, fugam ſimulavit: cumque barbari occupatis caſtris, in gaudium effuſi, medicatum vinum avidè merum hauſſerint, et in modum deſunctorum ſtrati jacerent, reverſus cepit eos, ac trucidavit.

poplar, the yew, spinage, hemp, hops, Hercules'-club, a curious exotic tree, with female flowers, and the pistachio-tree, are among this number. We ought, therefore, to give to the different species of the mandragora those names which belong to them; and if

we should happen to meet with any of those quacks, who live by falsehood and deception, we ought to open the eyes of the populace, and by informing them of the truth, prevent them from becoming the dupes of such ignorant impostors.

BIOGRAPHICAL ANECDOTES OF MR. POIVRE.

MR. Poivre, who first introduced the nutmeg and clove trees into the Isles of Bourbon and Mauritius, was born in the year 1715, at Lyons, where his family for some time had been engaged in commerce. After having studied at the College of the Missionaries of St. Joseph, at that place, he went to Paris to finish his education, in the Congregation of foreign Missions.

Being desirous of getting admitted into that society, he was first sent to China. Having stopped before his arrival at Canton, he received from some perfidious person who intended to deceive him, a Chinese letter, said to be a letter of recommendation; in which, on the contrary, a Chinese who had been offended by an European, described this person, whom he imagined to be the bearer of the letter, as an enemy to the Chinese nation, who deserved death.

Mr. Poivre, full of confidence, hastened to present his letter to the first Mandarin he could find; the consequence of which was, that he was apprehended and thrown into prison. Imprisonment in China is not very severe; he there learned the Chinese language. The Viceroy of Canton, struck with his noble, patient, and mild looks, and with his countenance, which had a great resemblance to those of the Asiatics, and touched by his ingenuity, and incensed at the treachery which had been exercised against him, became his protector, and procured him easy access to see the country, which is generally refused to Europeans. After remaining two years in China, he went to Cochin-China,

where he staid also two years, and again returned to China.

In 1745, Mr. Poivre came back to France, with a design of visiting his family, fixing himself irrevocably in his religious bonds, and of returning afterwards to those remote regions, to which his zeal seemed to invite him. The vessel in which he embarked was attacked in the straits of Bama, by an English ship of superior force. In exalted minds, even those of the mildest disposition, there is a natural repugnance to shun danger. During the whole action, Mr. Poivre exposed himself wherever he thought he could be most useful, assisting to work the ship, encouraging the soldiers and sailors, and above all, taking care of the wounded, till a cannon bullet carried off his hand at the wrist.

To give some idea of the serenity of his mind, it will be sufficient to observe, that the first words which he pronounced, after he saw himself deprived of one of his hands, were, "I can draw no longer." He was exceedingly fond of this amusement, and he had employed his art in making curious designs of the most important and interesting objects which he had met with in the course of his voyages. Some moments after Mr. Poivre was wounded the ship struck. He was thrown into the bottom of the hold, and remained twenty-four hours before his arm was dressed, a gangrene took place, and it was found necessary to make an amputation a little higher.

This fatal accident changed the destiny of Mr. Poivre, and he perceived that he must for ever renounce the labours of a missionary. Being conducted

conducted by the English to Batavia, he there had an opportunity of acquiring some knowledge respecting the culture of those valuable spices which the Dutch then possessed exclusively, and of the islands in which they are indigenous. He then formed that project, which he afterwards realized, of one day enriching his own country by them.

In his way to Pondicherry, he remained some time among the Malays, and visited several parts of the kingdom of Siam. Having embarked in a Dutch vessel in order to return, he was taken at the entrance of the channel, by a privateer of St. Malo, four days after he was retaken by an English frigate, conducted to Guernsey, and set at liberty in eight days, on peace being signed.

In 1749, he was chosen by the King to go as Ambassador to Cochin-China, to form a treaty of friendship, and establish a new branch of commerce. In executing this commission, Mr. Poivre displayed superior talents, the most scrupulous probity, remarkable activity, a prudent dignity, and in the account which he gave of it, a modesty almost inconceivable. On his return to the Isle of France, he deposited in the warehouses of the East-India Company, even the private presents which he had received from the King of Cochin-China.

The following anecdote may afford a proof of his strict honesty and open disinterestedness.

When he wrote to the East-India Company, he informed them that he had made good certain sums out of his own money, because he had suffered himself to be robbed through his own fault, and that it was not just that they should sustain the loss.

Soon after his return he was sent by the East-India Company to Manilla, with a secret commission, the principal object of which was, to procure seeds and plants of the spice trees, and to naturalize them in the Isle of France. This was his favorite scheme, and he did not lose a moment to put it in ex-

ecution. In 1754, he obtained a small vessel, in which he embarked to return to Manilla, from whence he proceeded to the Moluccas, and brought back some valuable plants of those trees which produce the fine spices. Not being able, however, to obtain from administration the means of making a more considerable expedition, in order to carry his enterprize to that extent, and to give it that effect which it required, he returned to France, where Mr. Bertin, who was then Controller General, and who knew how to appreciate the services of Mr. Poivre, procured for him from the King, a present of twenty thousand livres, for which he had not solicited. Satisfied with this moderate recompence, Mr. Poivre established himself at Lyons, in an agreeable retreat, where he gave himself up to letters, and to the cultivation of the most curious plants from all parts of the world. He was on the point of marrying an amiable and virtuous young woman, when he was offered the superintendence of the Isles of France and Bourbon. The desire alone of being serviceable to his country, made him accept this offer, and renounce all the enjoyments of his calm retreat.

His administration was equally active and prudent; he employed every method, and with success, to meliorate the state of these Islands, to repair the faults of his predecessors and to form useful establishments. But what has rendered his name celebrated, and will endear his memory to his countrymen, is the success with which his care and attention were at length crowned, in transporting from the Moluccas to the Isle of France, plants of the nutmeg and clove tree, and in sufficient numbers to ensure their naturalization.

A corvette, called the *Vigilant*, commanded by Mr. Trémigon, and another small vessel, named the *Morning Star*, commanded by Mr. D'Etcheverri, were equipped for this purpose, and sailed from the Isle of France in the year 1769. On the 18th of September,

ber, this little squadron arrived at Manilla, where Mr. D'Etcheveri was confined two months to his vessel by sickness. Having ordered himself to be carried on shore, he recovered his health by the use of the mineral waters of that country, which are said to be so corrosive, and to possess such a degree of heat, that if a fowl be dipped in them for only six minutes, nothing will be left of it but the bones.

On the 16th of January, 1770, our travellers set sail, and approached the Isles of Miao and Taffouri. The Vigilant directed her course to Timor, and the Morning Star had orders to cruise off the Molucca islands towards the east.

On the 15th of March, Mr. D'Etcheveri came in sight of Ceram, and observing a bay next morning, access to which seemed easy and safe, went on shore alone. Here he found a Dutchman employed in constructing a bark. This person, who had taken some umbrage against his own nation, received the presents which Mr. D'Etcheveri offered him, and in return, promised to afford him shelter during the night. Mr. D'Etcheveri obtained much useful information from him, and he was particularly cautioned to avoid the island of Amboyna, which is the grand magazine of the Dutch commerce. He learnt also that the Isle of Gueby produced clove and nutmeg trees equal in quality to those of Amboyna; that it was inhabited only by Malays, who were enemies to the Dutch nation; but that it was greatly to be feared lest these islanders, who were acquainted with no other Europeans except the Dutch, might treat him in a hostile manner. This consideration did not stop Mr. D'Etcheveri, who was resolved to accomplish the end of his expedition, even at the hazard of his life.

The Morning Star having anchored on the 5th of August near a village of the Isle of Gueby, a numerous company of the Malays appeared upon the shore. Mr. D'Etcheveri, however, landed, accompanied by Mr. Prevost, supercargo and interpreter; the latter

carried the King's flag. The islanders remarked, that the colours were not the same as those which they had before seen, and the French received a very favorable reception. The King of Gueby, who was absent at the time of their landing, arrived the same day, and Mr. D'Etcheveri and his companion joined the islanders, to go and meet him. The Prince took the Captain by the hand, and conducted him to his palace; received the presents which were offered him; expressed his hatred of that European nation which he had before known, and testified the greatest desire of throwing himself under the protection of the King of France. He immediately made his own flags be torn to pieces, and the standard of France was erected upon the spot by Mr. D'Etcheveri, amidst the acclamations of all the people. The uniforms of the French officers happening to strike the King's fancy, he permitted Mr. D'Etcheveri to dress him publicly in one of his suits. The Captain took advantage of this favorable disposition of the Prince, to request some of the vegetable productions of his kingdom, worthy of being presented to the King of France. The Dutch had entirely destroyed the nutmeg and clove trees in the Isle of Gueby; but the Prince proposed to send for some to Patani, a neighbouring isle, the King of which was his intimate friend and ally.

In the mean time the King of Patani, more powerful than his neighbour, had been informed of the arrival of strangers at the Isle of Gueby; supposing, therefore, that his ally was attacked by an enemy, he hastened to his assistance, accompanied by eighty pirogues, armed with cannon and swivels, and each manned by twenty sailors. This fleet advanced in good order, and announced its arrival by several discharges of artillery; but the King of Patani was agreeably surprized to see his ally marching to meet him, accompanied by Mr. D'Etcheveri, who received several flattering marks of kindness from him. The people who had been sent to Patani returned

returned soon afterwards, loaded with twenty thousand seeds or plants of the nutmeg tree.

Mr. D'Etcheveri begged for cloves, and one of the principal people among the Guebians, called *Bagour*, required eight days, and departed immediately to search for some at Patani.

The time appointed for the return of *Bagour* expired without any appearance of him. The monsoons had commenced; time was precious, and Mr. D'Etcheveri did not lose a single moment in putting to sea; but a calm which luckily came on the first day, prevented him from making much way. He was still in sight of Gueby when *Bagour* returned with the clove plants. As soon as Mr. D'Etcheveri had got them on board, he made the greatest dispatch to get clear of the straits; but at a small distance from Bouton, he fell in with five guarda costas, the commander of which sent a canoe filled with Europeans to examine him. The officer came on board, and questioned him very closely; Mr. D'Etcheveri replied, that he came from Manilla, and that he was bound to Batavia to procure refreshments, from which he meant to proceed to the place of his destination. He avoided with much address the offers of assistance and protection which were made him, and the guarda costas considering his little bark as deserving pity, rather than attention, suffered him to depart. All obstacles and dangers then disappeared, every thing concurred to favor his voyage, and the Morning Star, loaded with that treasure which she had gone so far in quest of, arrived safe at the Isle of France, on the 25th of June.

Not contented with this expedition, Mr. Poivre set on foot another, in the year 1771, which proving still more successful than the first, secured to the French colonies the perpetual possession of these valuable spices.

Mr. Poivre quitted the Isle of France in 1773. As he had employed his time there only for the public good, he brought back from thence a very small fortune, which his economy, ne-

ver parsimonious, had added to what he possessed before he was appointed intendant; but his memory will ever be revered and respected in those colonies which were committed to his care.

From the King he received the most honorable testimonies of approbation; and a pension of twelve thousand livres was added to the order of St. Michael, which he had obtained before. He retired to Lyons, where he lived in a happy tranquillity, and universally esteemed, till the 6th of January, 1786, when he was carried off by a dropy in the breast. As soon as the news arrived at Paris, great interest was made with the King, in favor of his widow and children. The Marshal de Castries proposed to his Majesty, to share the half of his pension between the widow and her three daughters, with which proposition his Majesty very readily complied.

With regard to the success which has attended the introduction of the clove and nutmeg trees into the isles of Bourbon and Mauritius, we are informed by some of the French journals, that in the year 1785, there were in the King's garden in the Isle of France, above ten thousand clove plants, two-thirds of which were distributed among the inhabitants of these islands. An hundred pounds of cloves have been gathered from four hundred and forty young trees, one hundred and thirty of which produced besides, thirty or forty thousand old ones for seed. One tree alone produced six thousand.

It is computed that the Dutch have not above five hundred thousand clove trees at Amboyna, and the other Molucca isles; the produce of which, at a medium, is estimated at two pounds per tree; with a million of pounds of cloves, the Dutch, therefore, have hitherto exclusively supplied all the world. As the trees planted in Bourbon have been much more fruitful, some of them producing fifteen pounds of cloves, there is every appearance to induce us to think, that the French will soon share with them this valuable branch of commerce.

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The culture of the nutmeg tree has not succeeded so well, because the female bear the fruits, and it is necessary to have male trees, which are very scarce, in order to render them fruitful, a circumstance which could be learned only by experience, and which has retarded their success. Nevertheless, in the year 1785, ten trees produced eight hundred nuts; but a storm of wind which came on some time in the month of June, shook off three

hundred of them before they had attained to perfect maturity. This accident suggested to Mr. Céré, director of the King's garden, the idea of propagating the nutmeg tree, by means of layers both from the male and female trees. This attempt was attended with success, for in the year 1786, there were four hundred and fifty layers, in good condition, on some of which the young nuts were beginning to be formed.

ANECDOTES OF EMINENT ARTISTS.

FRANCESCO Francia, a painter of Bologna, struck with the fame of Raphael, conceived a violent desire of seeing some of the works of that celebrated artist. His great age prevented him from undertaking a journey to Rome; he resolved therefore to write to Raphael, and to inform him how great an esteem he entertained for his talents, after the character which had been given of him. Reciprocal marks of friendship passed between these two artists, and they carried on a regular correspondence by letter. Raphael having about that time finished his famous painting of St. Cecilia, for the church of Bologna, he sent it to his friend, begging him to put it in its proper place, and to correct whatever faults he might find in it. The artist of Bologna, transported with joy at seeing the work of Raphael, began to consider it with attention; but he had no sooner cast his eyes upon it, than he perceived the great inferiority of his own talents to those of Raphael; melancholy took possession of his heart, he fell into a deep despondency, and died of grief, because he found that he had attained only to mediocrity in his art, after all his labour.

Michael Angelo was a man of great abilities; he wrote excellent verses with much facility, and his replies were generally bold and witty. The Emperor Charles V. having asked him one day, what he thought of Albert Durer, an eminent German painter, and

a man of letters, Angelo is said to have replied thus: "I esteem him so much, that if I were not Michael Angelo, I would much rather be Albert Durer, than Charles the Fifth."

Michael Angelo had so great a fondness for those statues which are seen at Rome, in the court of the Belvidere, that he went every day to survey them, and when old age prevented him from walking, he made himself be carried to the spot where they were. Though he became totally blind towards the end of his life, he never omitted these visits. He would feel for several hours those antique statues, which he could not contemplate, and he never quitted them until he had tenderly embraced them.

Julius III. the proudest pontiff that ever sat in the chair of St. Peter, made Michael Angelo sit down in his presence, in order to discourse with him upon those arts which he professed. Paul III. among other marks of distinction with which he honored this artist, paid him a visit of ceremony, accompanied by ten cardinals.

Titian painted the portrait of Charles V. three times, which made the Emperor say, that he had thrice received immortality from the hands of Titian. This artist having finished a large picture, representing all the illustrious characters of the house of Austria, Charles V. begged of him that he would do him the favor to introduce himself into the piece. As he could not,

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LITERARY MAGAZINE & BRITISH REVIEW.



PAPIRIUS PRÆTEXTATUS.

And his Mother

Published according to Act of Parliament. Oct. 1. 1788 by C. Forster. No. 41. Pall-mall.

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STUDY FOR THE BUST OF THE ARTIST



STUDY FOR THE BUST OF THE ARTIST

And an artist

not well refuse, Titian with great modesty placed his own portrait in the most obscure part of the painting; but the Emperor, not contented with this mark of distinction, and being desirous of rewarding him in a more splendid manner, enobled him and all his descendants; he afterwards bestowed upon him the order of St. James, and created him a Count Palatine.

While he was painting for the third time the portrait of his august protector, who had always treated him with the greatest respect, Titian let fall his pencil, which the Emperor hastened to take up; the artist, upon this, throwing himself on his knees, cried out, "Sire, 'I am unworthy of such service.'" Charles replied, "A Titian deserves 'to be served by a Cæsar.'"

SOME ACCOUNT OF THE STATUE OF PAPIRIUS PRÆTEXTATUS
AND HIS MOTHER.

THE story to which this group seems to allude may be found in Aulus Gellius, b. i. ch. 23, and in the Saturnalia of Macrobius, b. i. ch. 6. It is thus related by the former:—The Roman senate having found it impossible to conclude an important debate in which they had been engaged, adjourned to the day following, and enjoined all the members to observe the most profound secrecy, until the affair should be brought to a determination. Young Papirius, who, according to the custom of that time, had accompanied his father to the senate-house, was closely interrogated by his mother when he returned, concerning the business upon which the senate had been employed. His reply was, that he had been ordered to be silent, and on that account was not at liberty to gratify her wishes. The curiosity of the lady was still more excited by this answer, and the youth, finding that he was pressed by her more and more to discover what he was unwilling to reveal, devised the following ingenious expedient to get rid of his mother's importunities, without disobeying the senate. He told his mother, that the question under consideration was, whether it would be more for the advantage of the republic that one man should have two wives, or one woman two husbands. The lady, alarmed at this information, immediately hastened to communicate it to her female acquaintances. The intelligence was soon spread, and next morning the

senate-house was beset by a crowd of ladies, who, with tears in their eyes, humbly begged, that the senate would decree that one woman might have two husbands, rather than one husband two wives. The senators, astonished at this tumult, were lost in conjecture; when young Papirius, rising up, related in what manner he had imposed on the credulity of his mother. The whole assembly admired and applauded his ingenuity; and it was ordered that he alone, for the future, of all the Roman youth, should be entitled to have free access into the senate-house whenever he thought proper. The surname of Prætextatus was also given him, because he had shewn so much prudence in concealing a secret, at so early an age.

Though this group, which is to be seen in the gardens of the villa Ludovisi, in the neighbourhood of Rome, is supposed to represent Papirius in the act of telling his mother that fiction, which saved him from the necessity of either giving her a harsh refusal, or of transgressing the orders of the senate, some, on account of the drapery, which seems to approach rather to that of the Greeks, especially as, in the dress of Papirius, there is no appearance of the bulla, or of the prætexta, have been induced to consider it as relating to some Grecian story, such as that of Phædra and Hyppolitus, mentioned in the Cratylus of Plato; by Plutarch, in his Life of Theseus, and in the Metamorphoses of Ovid.

A REMARKABLE CONSPIRACY, DISCOVERED AT MOSCOW, BY
PETER THE GREAT.

TRANSLATED FROM THE RUSSIAN.

DURING the commotions occasioned by the boundless ambition of the Princess Sophia*, it is well known that the revolt of the Strelitz† brought the Russian empire almost to the brink of destruction.

A brother of the famous Totte-lawitau, colonel of that corps, lost his life upon the scaffold. He was named Ofakoi; and as his money and estate were confiscated, he left his son in a very deplorable state of misery. This unfortunate youth, having escaped the pursuit of the Emperor's emissaries, in a most wonderful manner, was concealed in a certain obscure village, by an old slave who had lived with his father. When he arrived at the state of manhood, this domestic told him the secret of his birth, and proposed to him a plan of avenging his family, by assassinating the Czar. The young man started with horror upon hearing this proposal; but he dissembled his sentiments, and the slave, who imagined that he had brought him over to his purpose, prevailed upon him to set out for Moscow, where, he informed him, he would find a number of conspirators ready to second his design. Ofakoi, either through weakness, or in hopes of being revenged, followed his conductor. They arrived in the night-time, and stopped at an inn near Kremlin, where the Emperor resided.

The slave having there found his friends, they resolved to hold a consultation that very night, in the ruins of an old house, which was not far distant from the palace.

Ofakoi, who had in vain attempted to learn from his companion who the

conspirators were, pressed him again to satisfy his curiosity, but without success.

When the hour of appointment approached, the slave only told him that he was going to be in company with people who were animated with a desire of revenge; and who, notwithstanding his youth, and want of experience, earnestly wished to have him for their chief. "The humiliating situation to which you are now reduced," added he; "the blood of your father still reeking— all ought to arouse your courage, and banish every idea of the danger that may arise from prosecuting your revenge."

These words made young Ofakoi tremble; and with more reason, as the tavern was at that time full of Russians, who, according to the custom of their country, were giving themselves up to intoxication and excess.

The slave it is true, spoke with a very low voice, and in a kind of provincial dialect, unknown to the Russians of Moscow; but those who devise crimes are generally blind, and for the most part betray themselves by their own imprudence.

Ofakoi and the slave repaired to the ruins, where the fatal assembly was to be held. As the conspirators were already met, the most conspicuous among them addressed young Ofakoi in the following manner:—"You see here," said he, "a set of unfortunate men, who have escaped from the tyranny of the Czar. That barbarian, though he put to death by the hands of the execu-

* Eldest sister of the Czar Peter, who carrying her views to the throne, attempted more than once to make him be put to death.

† A body of militia, which, in some respects, might be compared to the Prætorian bands among the Romans, and the Janissaries among the Turks; but still more barbarous,

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tioner, and even by his own, the greater part of our companions, the Strelitz, has not been able to extend his fury to us. Heaven hath preserved us to execute its vengeance, and the fatal moment is now arrived. Shudder with horror, young Ofakoi! I have seen the blood of thy unfortunate father shed on the scaffold: I followed him to the melancholy spot; but I could not save him!—Wandering for ten years through the most frightful and dreary deserts, the misery of our situation compelled us to seek by fraud that subsistence, to which our rank, as soldiers and citizens, gave us a just title. But, to-morrow, that cruel tyrant and his courtiers shall fall by our hands. We loved your father, who was our chief; do you in turn become so, and let your resolution and courage prove you worthy of the choice which we have made. When a sovereign has once stepped beyond the lawful bounds of power, his oppressed subjects, if they have courage to emancipate themselves, may also step beyond the limits of duty and humanity.”

Ofakoi perceived, that in the present juncture there was no alternative, and that even the appearance of weakness would be his sentence of death; he assumed therefore a courage which he did not naturally possess.

It was agreed by the conspirators, on separating, that they should assemble next morning at the same hour; and that, for the greater security, Ofakoi and the slave should return to the inn by different routes.

Scarcely had Ofakoi advanced thirty steps when he was accosted by a Russian, who begged him to follow him. As he imagined this person to be one of the conspirators, he readily obeyed. Having arrived at a very narrow stair-case, which they mounted with some difficulty, they entered a small apartment, the door of which the Russian immediately shut.

“Be not surprized,” said the Russian to him, “at what I have done;

what I have to tell you requires the most profound secrecy. I am just come, as well as you, from that assembly, where the death of the Czar has been resolved upon with a solemn oath. Like you, I have been admitted this night, for the first time, among the conspirators; and, like you, I have particular reasons for being the irreconcilable enemy of my sovereign: but if his blood be due for the cruelties with which he is accused, our plot is very badly laid. For who, I pray, are these conspirators? Wretches stained with crimes, who have eluded the rigor of the laws; and plunderers, who breathe nothing but robbery, murder and pillage. And who, are their accomplices? According to their account, the chief men of the empire, and yet they have not dared to name any one amongst them! Who would so far disgrace himself, as to unite in any scheme with such banditti?—What plot have they opened to us?—For whom do we expose ourselves to danger, and for whom do we labor?—Plan, means, resources—every thing is unknown us. Yet they with us to become the blind instruments of such an enterprise.—These, young Ofakoi, were my doubts and fears during this assembly. The conspirators have appointed you their chief; I readily subscribe to their choice; but make me see a little more clearly into this dark and mysterious business, and you may depend upon the exertions of my arm.”

A heart formed by nature alone, which chance has removed from the intrigues of cities and the baneful poison of courts, being incapable of treachery, is seldom a prey to suspicion. Ofakoi was struck with the confidence of the Russian, and this confidence emboldened him to unveil his sentiments fully. “You must have remarked my surprise,” said he, “when I found myself in the midst of such an assembly: satisfied with my condition, acquaint-

“ed only with my cottage, and a stranger to ambition, I enjoyed the most perfect tranquillity—My eyes have been opened; I have been informed that I had a father to avenge; and that, in order to accomplish this end, I must stain my hands with the blood of my sovereign. But was I ever acquainted with this father? Am I certain whether he was innocent or guilty? And, whilst under this doubt, I must assassinate my master!—These thoughts, I confess, are repugnant to my feelings. For who am I, to judge of the Emperor's conduct? What right—what authority has Heaven given me to punish him? The proposal made me shudder. But the fear of death repressed my answer on my very lips. Since you have opened your heart to me, read what passes in mine;—I detest crimes, and above all, a crime of this nature: a voice within me seems to cry out, *Love and respect thy sovereign*. Have pity therefore on my youth; I give myself up to your direction—Save me from the fury of these barbarians, who have chosen me to be the executioner of their master, and of mine. For if I must either perish, or attempt the life of the Czar, I choose rather to perish innocent.”

“Thou shalt not perish,” cried the Russian; “it is the Czar who now speaks to thee, and who can reward the noble ingenuity of thy sentiments.”

The person who spoke to him was indeed the Emperor himself, who, under the disguise of a slave, had overheard the plot in the tavern. This discovery suggested an idea to him of being present at the assembly where his destruction was to be resolved upon. He had the courage to go thither, and escaped observation, by mixing with the conspirators. Having observed Ofakoi much confused, and to faulter in his answers, he determined to save him, in case he should be found not absolutely guilty.

Those who may consider this story as favouring too much of romance, are, no doubt, ignorant that Peter's whole life was full of such kind of adventures. This prince, born to be the reformer of his nation, and who wished to see every thing with his own eyes, often introduced himself, disguised, into those public assemblies where mirth and intoxication render the mind incapable of retaining a secret; and he was indebted to this activity alone, for the discovery of twenty plots which were formed against him. The people, therefore, who equally feared and respected him, often used to say, *The Emperor hears us; let us be honest*.

After having freed Ofakoi from fear, by loading him with praise and caresses, he required of him that he would return to his companion at the inn, and give as an excuse for his delay, that he was unacquainted with the streets of Moscow.

The slave believed what he said, and Ofakoi next morning went with him to the assembly. It was there decided that they should set fire to the palace; that during the confusion occasioned by the conflagration, a part of the troop should employ themselves in pillaging, whilst the other, headed by Ofakoi, should join the conspirators in the castle, who were particularly named, and who were people of the first eminence in the state: that they should afterwards advance towards the apartment of the Emperor, who would no doubt come forth, alarmed by the noise, and that they should then dispatch him with their poignards. Every thing was thus settled, and they were going to pronounce the oath, when the guards of the Czar surprised them. They were immediately seized, and thrown into prison; and the accomplices whom they named were also arrested, and speedy punishment followed their crime;—they were committed into the hands of the executioner, and suffered that very day,

Ofakoi rose rapidly, and soon saw no one between himself and the Emperor

peror but Prince. Menzikoff, whom fortune had raised from the dirt to the highest dignity and honor, and who, by a fatal reverse, was precipitated a few years afterwards into the most abject misery.

A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE SUBTERRANEAN CAVERN AT PARIS.

IT is a fact no less true than surprising, that great part of the city of Paris is built over a subterranean cavern, called the Quarries, the ground above which, on account of the great pressure occasioned by the weight of the houses, must be propped up in various places to prevent its sinking or falling in entirely. An ingenious gentleman, Mr. Thomas White, Member of the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh, gives the following account of an excursion through it, in a letter to his father, dated July 29th, 1784, and printed in the second volume of the Memoirs of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester.

"I yesterday visited a most extraordinary subterranean cavern, commonly called the Quarries. But before I give you the history of my expedition, it will perhaps be necessary to say a few words concerning the *Observatoire Royal*, the place of descent into this very remarkable cavern. This edifice is situated in the Fauxbourg St. Jacques, in the highest part of the city. It takes its name from its use, and was built by Louis XIV. in 1667, after the design of Claude Perrault, Member of the Academy of Sciences, and first architect to his Majesty. It serves for the residence of mathematicians, appointed by the King, to make observations and improve astronomy. The mode of building it is ingenious, and admirably contrived, it being so well arched that neither wood nor iron is employed in its construction. All the stones have been well chosen, and placed with an uniformity and equality which contribute much to the beauty and solidity of the whole edifice. It is reckoned to be about eighty or ninety feet in height, and at the top there is a beautiful platform,

paved with flint stones, which commands an excellent view of Paris, and its environs. In the different floors of this building, there are a number of trap-doors, placed perpendicularly over each other, and, when these are opened, the stars may be very clearly distinguished, from the bottom of the cave, at noon day.

At this place, I was introduced to one of the inspectors, (persons appointed by the King to superintend the workmen) by my friend Mr. Smeathman, who had used great application and interest for permission to inspect the quarry, and had been fortunate enough to obtain it. For as this cavern is extended under a great part of the city of Paris, and leaves it in some places almost entirely without support, the inspectors are very particular as to shewing it, and endeavour to keep it as secret as possible, lest, if it should get generally known, it might prove, a source of uneasiness and alarm to the inhabitants above. For, what is very remarkable, notwithstanding the extent of this quarry, and the apparent danger many parts of the city are in from it, few even of those who have constantly resided at Paris, are at all acquainted with it; and on my mentioning the expedition I was going to undertake to several of my Parisian friends, they ridiculed me upon it, and told me it was impossible there could be any such place.

About nine o'clock in the morning we assembled, to the number of forty, and, with each a wax candle in his hand, precisely at ten o'clock, descended, by steps, to the depth of three hundred and sixty feet perpendicular. We had likewise a number of guides with torches, which we found very useful; but, even with these assistants,

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we were several times under the necessity of halting, to examine the plans the inspectors keep of these quarries, that we might direct our course in the right road. I was disappointed in not being able to obtain one of these plans, which would have given the clearest idea of this most extraordinary place. At the entrance, the path is narrow for a considerable way; but soon we entered large and spacious streets, all marked with names, the same as in the city; different advertisements and bills were found, as we proceeded, pasted on the walls, so that it had every appearance of a large town, swallowed up in the earth.

The general height of the roof is about nine or ten feet; but in some parts not less than thirty, and even forty. In many places, there is a liquor continually dropping from it, which congeals immediately, and forms a species of transparent stone, but not so fine and clear as rock crystal. As we continued our peregrination, we thought ourselves in no small danger from the roof, which we found but indifferently propped in some places, with wood much decayed. Under the houses, and many of the streets, however, it seemed to be tolerably secured by immense stones set in mortar; in other parts where there are only fields or gardens above, it was totally unsupported for a considerable space, the roof being perfectly level, or a plane piece of rock.

After traversing about two miles, we again descended about twenty steps, and found several workmen, in a very cold and damp place, propping up a most dangerous part, which they were fearful would give way every moment. We were glad to give them money for some drink, and make our visit at this place as short as possible. The path here is not more than three feet in width, and the roof so low, that we were obliged to stoop considerably.

By this time, several of the party began to repent of their journey, and were much afraid of the damp and

cold air we frequently experienced. But, alas! there was no retreating.

On walking some little distance farther, we entered into a kind of saloon, cut out of the rock, and said to be exactly under the *Eglise de St. Jaques*. This was illuminated with great taste, occasioned an agreeable surprize, and made us all ample amends for the danger and difficulty we had just before gone through. At one end, was a representation in miniature of some of the principal forts in the Indies, with the fortifications, draw-bridges, &c. Cannons were planted, with a couple of soldiers to each, ready to fire. Centinels were placed in different parts of the garrison, particularly before the governor's house; and a regiment of armed men was drawn up in another place, with their general in the front. The whole was made up of a kind of clay which the place affords; it was ingeniously contrived, and the light that was thrown upon it, gave it a very pretty effect.

On the other side of this hall, was a long table set out with cold tongues, bread and butter, and some of the best Burgundy I ever drank. Now every thing was hilarity and mirth; our fears were entirely dispelled, and the danger we dreaded the moment before was now no longer thought of. In short, we were all in good spirits again, and proceeded on our journey about two miles farther, when our guides judged it prudent for us to ascend, as we were then got to the steps which lead up to the town. We here found ourselves safe, at the *Val de grace*, near to the English Benedictine convent, without the least accident having happened to any one of the party. We imagined we had walked about two French leagues, and were absent from the surface of the earth, betwixt four and five hours.

After we had thanked the inspectors and guides for their very great civility, politeness, and attention, we took our leave to visit the English Benedictines convent, in whose court yard, and within a few yards of their house,

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the roof of the subterranean passage had given way, and fallen in, the depth of one hundred and ninety-three feet.

Though there was some little danger attending our rash expedition, (as some people were pleased to term it) yet it was most exceedingly agreeable, and so perfectly a *nouvelle* scene, that we were all highly delighted, and thought ourselves amply repaid for our trouble.

I regretted much that I did not take a thermometer and barometer down with me, that I might have had an opportunity of making some remarks on the temperature and weight of the air. Certainly, however, it was colder at this time than on the surface of the earth. But Mr. Smeathman informed me, that when he descended the last winter, in the long and hard frost, he found the air much more temperate than above ground, but far from warm. Neither, however, had he a thermometer with him. I lamented too, that I had not time to make more remarks on the petrifications, &c.

Mr. Smeathman observed, that when he descended, he found a very sensible difficulty of breathing in some of the passages and caverns, where the superincumbent rock was low, and the company crowded. This no doubt was much increased by the number of wax lights, but he does not apprehend that the difficulty would have been so great in rooms of equal dimensions above ground. We remarked too when we descended, that there was, in some degree, an oppression of respiration throughout the whole passage.

There were formerly several openings into the Quarries, but the two I have mentioned, viz. the *Observatory* and the *Val de Grace*, are, I believe, the only ones left; and these the inspectors keep constantly locked, and rarely open them, except to strangers particularly introduced, and to workmen, who are always employed in some part by the King.

The Police thought it a necessary precaution to secure all the entrances into this cavern, from its having been formerly inhabited by a famous gang of robbers, who infested the country for many miles round the city of Paris.

As to the origin of this quarry, I could not, on the strictest enquiry, learn any thing satisfactory; and the only thing I know published, is contained in the *Tableaux de Paris*, vol. i. c. 5, which is as follows.

For the first building of Paris, it was necessary to get the stone in the environs, and the consumption of it was very considerable. As Paris was enlarged, the suburbs were insensibly built on the ancient quarries, so that all that you see without, is essentially wanting in the earth, for the foundation of the city: hence proceed the frightful cavities, which are at this time found under the houses in several quarters. They stand upon abysses. It would not require a very violent shock to throw back the stones to the place, from whence they have been raised with so much difficulty. Eight men being swallowed up in a gulph one hundred and fifty feet deep, and some other less known accidents, excited at length the vigilance of the police and the government, and, in fact, the buildings of several quarters have been privately propped up; and by this means, a support given to these obscure subterraneous places, which they before wanted.

All the suburbs of St. James's, Harp-street, and even the street of Tournon, stand upon the ancient quarries; and pillars have been erected to support the weight of the houses. What a subject for reflection in considering this great city, formed and supported by means absolutely contrary! These towers, these steeples, the arched roofs of these temples are so many signs to tell the eye, that what we now see in the air, is wanting under our feet."

To

TO THE EDITORS OF THE LITERARY MAGAZINE.

GENTLEMEN,

TO disseminate knowledge in the most pleasing manner is the distinguished province of an exalted mind. Writers who employ their talents for that purpose, claim our warmest approbation, are entitled to the highest honors, and may justly expect the most liberal encouragement. As your plan is far preferable to any other, and as you seem possessed of full powers for the due execution of it, there is little reason to doubt, that *your's* will soon take the lead of every other periodical publication. The contributions of literary men will greatly facilitate your labors, and whatever tends to public utility, will, no doubt, find a place in your truly excellent and valuable repository.

The publication of the New Pharmacopœia, might well excite the attention of the literati. A work of such infinite consequence to the welfare of mankind deserves at least to be examined with seriousness, reviewed with the strictest care, and treated with a dignity due to its importance. Nothing can more astonish and pain the generous mind than the strictures of the Monthly Reviewers on that subject. They are unquestionably the first writers in the English language, second to none in erudition, judgment, and taste. Had not the public a right to expect something more from such men, than a few jejune and nugatory observations on the *names* of some medicines, with shrewd insinuations, that had *they* been consulted, more apposite ones had been contrived? This is *their* opinion, and *their's* only; for the sorry examples given, are dismal specimens of their reformatory abilities in the nominal line. No name could be assigned with greater propriety to a composition of *equal* parts of the ingredients, than quicksilver with sulphur; or for one in which there is so much greater a proportion of the first, than to discriminate it by its

colour. As the latter is red, the M. R. *think* the first should be called black. How groundless is their sneer at that *unfortunate* title, Succus cochleariæ compositus! Is not the intrinsic meaning of compositus, *mixed with other things*; from ponere, to put, and cum, with? They are mightily apprehensive of a mistake, from a similarity of sound, that gum ammoniac may be substituted for water of ammonia. It is no compliment to the apothecary to suppose him possessed of such wonderful talents for blundering. The tincture of colomba, they assure us, is not a pigeon tincture, though colomba is the Latin name for that bird. Fie!

Such puerilities I could not read, without feeling the blood burn my old cheeks: they best know whether they were written without blushing. All the rest of their observations are equally frivolous and futile; their cavils groundless, their sneers paltry, and their jokes calculated for the meridian of such intellects, as are incapable of understanding any other part of their writings. What a proof of the infirmity of our nature, and that some few sparks of envy remain unextinguished even in the most elevated and refined minds!

The authors of the Analytical Review tell their readers very gravely, that the Royal College have availed themselves of the Swedish and Edinburgh Dispensatories: they might with equal propriety have said, that the mariner avails himself of the shifting sands, and sunken rocks in the ocean. It is a pity these ingenious writers should so soon lose sight of their original plan, which was an exceedingly good one; instead of permitting the reader to form *his* opinion of the work analyzed, even in their third number, they deliver *their own* as decisively, and as magisterially, as Lord Peter in the Tale of a Tub.

The obvious *intention* of the Royal College,

College, in their new Pharmacopœia, appears to be—to facilitate the labors of the apothecary—to furnish the physician with every necessary ingredient; and all the ready prepared and combined formulæ he can possibly want—to promote the truest interest of mankind, by offering the means to remove every disorder (in its own nature curable) in the most pleasant, safe, and expeditious manner.

Are not these *ends*, of so much moment, *all* perfectly answered in that incomparable work?

First, I appeal to every apothecary in England. Does he find the least difficulty in completing any of the compositions? Doth not every process proceed as smoothly, and with as much exactitude and precision as he could wish? Is he at any loss to comprehend the accurate and strongly pointed directions? Can he in a single instance fail of success? Does he not find every composition finished with facility, and the result exceed his most sanguine expectations in elegance? How conspicuous is the skill and nice attention of the College, even in the minutest matters, as unguents, plaisters, cerates, &c. The operator surveys each finished piece with equal satisfaction and admiration. He is no longer puzzled and perplexed, and, notwithstanding the utmost exertion of his art, frequently obliged to destroy his work as useless. The College plainly shew, that, with unwearied toil and marked precision, they have often gone over the same ground, and appointed the well-worn path to the use and comfort of every succeeding apothecary, from whose works errors are *now* for ever precluded, and the patient's safety secured. In this respect, their *intention* is accomplished to the highest degree of perfection.

Secondly, The obligations the physician owes the College are better felt than expressed. Few persons are apprised of the (I had almost said miraculous) effects of due *combination*. In this art, the art of healing wholly consists. Nature is a stranger to the

cifics. It is the peculiar province of the physician to fabricate a *remedy* from ingredients, which, separately, would prove inert, or perhaps pernicious. Innumerable instances might be given. I shall only mention one. In an angina pectoris, when the patient endured the most excruciating agonies after every expiration; when opiates previously administered had only aggravated the symptoms, five grains of the pulv. ipecac. c. with half a grain of cantharides, in a few minutes entirely relieved him. In *this*, the noblest of all arts, the art of combination, the authors of the new Pharmacopœia have manifested the most exquisite skill: in *this*, they shine with a splendor superior to that of all their predecessors, or of all their contemporaries on the earth. *This* is a mystery, or dead letter, to the three-pair-of-stairs doctors, and undiscoverable by the speculative theorist. The more extensive a man's *practice* has been, the more powerfully will he feel the excellencies of *their* combinations. Almost every formula deserves a volume to display it. Every succeeding year the effects of these formulæ will be more conspicuous, and more useful. The good practical physician can best discern their merit, and will gratefully apply the assistance they afford him, to the unspeakable benefit of mankind. Indeed every physician, who has the welfare of his patients at heart, will treasure his memory with the whole of the new Pharmacopœia.

Lastly, They have succeeded as well in promoting the real advantage of mankind, and the dearest interests of society. In *this*, they have acquitted themselves with equal care, sedulity, and the tenderest, finest feelings of the human heart. Future millions will have cause to bless their memory. The more their work is attended to, the more it will be esteemed and admired, and the welfare of mankind be the more advanced.

If there be any thing exceptionable in this highly-finished work, it is the admission



admission of the wolf's-bane and fox-glove amongst the officinal simples, in compliment to the Scotch doctors, who are so fond of poisons.

I am, GENTLEMEN, with the best wishes,

Your most faithful and obedient servant,

THO. MARRYAT.

ristol, August 21, 1788.

P. S. It may be thought an act of temerity, for one who has just published a treatise, to make so free with the monthly reviewers; to this I can only say, that if they treat me with jibes and sneers, and pigeon-tinctures, they may raise a laugh, but not at the expence of the author. If they point out my errors (in a manner however unpalatable), I shall esteem them my truest and dearest friends.

LETTER FROM DR. FRANKLIN TO MR. LANDRIANI, ON THE UTILITY OF ELECTRIC CONDUCTORS.

I HAVE received, Sir, your excellent dissertation on the utility of electric conductors, which you have had the goodness to send me, and I have read it with much pleasure. I beg leave to return you my sincere thanks for it.

I found, on my return to this country, that the number of conductors was much increased, the utility of them having been demonstrated by several experiments, which shewed their efficacy in preserving buildings from lightning. Among other examples, my own house one day received a severe shock from lightning: the neighbours perceived it, and immediately hastened to give assistance, in case it should be on fire; but it sustained no damage: they found only the family much frightened by the violence of the explosion.

Last year, when I was making some addition to the building, it was necessary to take down the conductor: I found, upon examination, that its

copper point, which was nine inches in length, and about one third of an inch in diameter in the thickest part, had been almost entirely melted, and very little of it remained fixed to the iron rod. This invention, therefore, has been of some utility to the inventor; and to this advantage is added, the pleasure of having been useful to others.

Mr. Rittenhaufs, our astronomer, has informed me, that having observed with his excellent telescope several conductors which were within his view, he perceived that the points of a certain number of them had been in like manner melted. There is no instance where a house furnished with a complete conductor has suffered any considerable damage; and those even which had none have been very little injured since conductors have become common in the city.

B. FRANKLIN.

Philadelphia, Oct. 14, 1787.

DETACHED THOUGHTS.

MERIT is often an obstacle to fortune, and the reason is, because it always produces two bad effects, envy and fear. Envy in those who cannot rise to the same degree of perfection, and fear in those who are established, and who dread, that by advancing a man possessed of more abilities and

merit than themselves, they may be supplanted.

An excellent rule for living happy in society is, never to concern one's self with the affairs of others, unless they wish for or desire it. Under pretence of being useful, people often shew more curiosity than affection.

REVIEW

REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

FOREIGN.

GEOGRAPHISCHE HISTORIE, van den Mensch en der Alom, &c. *A Geographical History of Man and Quadrupeds dispersed over the Earth. Translated into Dutch from the German of M. E. A. W. Zimmerman, Professor of Philosophy and Natural History at Brunswick.* By M. P. Boddaert, M. D. Member of several Academies. Utrecht. 1787. Octavo.

IN whatever relations, whether natural or moral, man, the chief of all animated beings, may be considered, there is scarcely any of them which has not been the object of the researches of philosophers. Bonnet, Buffon, Pope, Kaimes, Hume, Kant, Linnæus, and Blumenbach, have examined human nature in almost every point of view, and seem to have carried their investigations to the utmost extent. There remained, however, one of these relations which had been considered only very superficially, and which Buffon even treated in a cursory manner; we mean the situation of man upon this globe; or, according to the expression of Mr. Zimmerman, his *geographical relation*; an object of too great importance, without doubt, to be omitted or passed over lightly. The case is the same with regard to quadrupeds. Naturalists have given very accurate descriptions of them, but they have said little or nothing respecting their geographical existence.

To supply by assiduous researches and accurate observations, so essential an omission in the history of man, as well as of quadrupeds, is assuredly an undertaking worthy of praise. Such is the object of the present excellent and curious work, which we have the pleasure of announcing to our readers. Since the year 1777, Mr. Zimmerman published a work in Latin, entitled, *Specimen Zoologiæ, Quadrupedum*

Domicilia et Migrationes Sistent, which was a prelude to this treatise, and which equally displayed the sagacity and erudition of its author.

In the preliminary discourse, Mr. Zimmerman examines that order which universally reigns throughout the vast empire of the creation, and the immense chain of beings, the intimate connexion of which produces the idea of that whole commonly called the *system of nature*. All naturalists, without exception, acknowledge the difficulty of following and demonstrating the connexion of this chain; for which reason, Mr. Zimmerman says, "it is not impossible that one who reasons rashly, and without reflecting, may, after having imagined fifty systems, which destroy one another, at length conclude by denying that there is any real plan in the creation." But he remarks, at the same time, that if the greater part of the systems hitherto formed by the ablest naturalists to unveil the plan of nature be defective, they have, however, made such a progress as may one day conduct to the proposed end. In proof of this he cites the discoveries respecting the polypus, by Trembley; the spalax, by Gulden Stad; the firen lacertina, by Garden, with some others; and he is of opinion, that if sovereigns would warmly patronize this noble branch of science, we should be able to discover so much of the secrets of nature, that very little would be unknown to posterity.

Our author afterwards remarks, that in the number and division of beings, the same order and the same regularity is evidently perceived, as that which appears in the general scale of nature. He is of opinion that the grand end of creation was, to make all live, and it is for this reason that we find a greater number of living beings,

ings, than of those which are destitute of life, or which have very little. He says, there are fewer plants than animals, and fewer minerals than plants; although he allows the impossibility, considering our present situation, of determining the number of minerals. However judicious this remark of Mr. Zimmerman may be, we are afraid, that were it thoroughly examined, it would be found void of foundation; as for our part, we believe that nature is uniform in all her works; but we are persuaded, that it would be the height of folly to attempt to find a just proportion in their number. The author himself allows that we are superficially acquainted with the productions of the mineral kingdom, which is indeed true; we have never yet penetrated beyond the depth of four hundred feet into the bosom of the earth, and from the superficies to the centre there are nearly four thousand miles. There remains, therefore, an immense depth of earth, the productions of which are to us entirely unknown. That being the case, how can we suppose that there are more plants than minerals?

With regard to the order which nature seems to have wished to preserve in the distribution of her productions on the surface of the earth, we join in opinion with the learned author. The examination of that order is the principal object of this work.—The author first remarks that Mr. Guettard is much mistaken in supposing that certain productions, namely minerals, are distributed in such a manner, that they are common to all countries lying under the same latitude. This error arises from his having compared a small number of particular facts with the general laws of nature. Discoveries have not, as yet, been made, says Mr. Zimmerman, sufficient to give us reason to conclude that there is an equal distribution of minerals. However, he does not doubt that posterity may yet be able to demonstrate it. But he says, it is an undoubted fact, that those minerals which are most useful and necessary to

man, are most generally dispersed; and for this reason, iron, copper, marble, and common stone, are to be found in greatest abundance, and are much more attainable than gold, silver, diamonds, or any other precious stones.

With regard to the division of plants, the author thinks that it follows the order of the climates; for this reason, he says, the plants of Greenland are found not only on the Alps, and the Pyrenean mountains, but also on the Cordilleras. Tournefort saw, on the top of Mount Ararat, the same plants as are found in Lapland; a little lower those which grow in Sweden, and lower still, those which are natural to France. There are plants, however, which are the production of every country, and of all climates, whilst there are others which belong exclusively to one region; for example, the *solanum nigrum* of Linnæus is found in every known part of the globe, as well as those herbs which are essentially necessary for the nourishment of man, and of many animals. On the contrary, the nutmeg and the clove tree are found only in the Moluccas, and some other islands of the South Seas, and the tea shrub grows only in China and Japan. Some plants have the property of thriving in every climate, such as the peach, the plumb, and the apricot-tree, which belong to Asia. The greater part even of the pulse and beans, cultivated in Europe with so much success, are originally productions of Asia. This species of irregularity renders it very difficult to give a proper view of the order in which plants are distributed on the globe. There would be less difficulty in exhibiting the different divisions of the animal kingdom; but this immense kingdom also presents obstacles which have hitherto rendered it impossible to establish its classes with any precision. The immense depth of the sea prevents the naturalist, however laborious he may be, from observing all its inhabitants; the class of insects is too numerous to be examined in all its details; and the winged

winged tribe are too unsettled, and too little attached to one country, to afford us an opportunity of determining their natural abode with any certainty. The following are the three classes under which animals may be considered: First, Those, the bodies of which are sufficiently robust to stand the heat and cold of every climate. Secondly, those which are found only in particular climates; that is to say, in certain zones of the globe. Thirdly, Those, which by nature are confined to very narrow bounds, and which, on that account, are prevented from spreading. It may happen, as the author remarks, that the race of these may multiply, by being removed to other countries; and that their strength or qualities may be found more useful than they are supposed to be at present. This is proved by the buffalo, which, before the sixth century, was entirely confined to the southern parts of Asia, and which at present is to be found in Italy, and even in some of the more northern countries of Europe. It is probable that the camel, which at present is among the animals of the second class, that is to say, those which inhabit spacious regions, will be so much dispersed some centuries hence, that it will be found among those of the first class. The transportation of animals from one region to another, change of food, and the labour to which they are subjected, may cause them to degenerate considerably; but whether these causes can metamorphose them so much, as to make them become new beings, is what the author does not pretend to determine. He however allows, that, in consequence of some of those grand revolutions which the earth has suffered, different kinds of animals have mixed together, and produced varieties, which would not have existed without these revolutions; on the other hand, he is clearly of opinion, that none of the primitive species are lost. However this may be, and whatever influence change of place may have, in making animals degenerate from their

species, Mr. Zimmerman observes, that we ought not to grant too much to climate, nor to suppose, as Mr. Guettard has done with respect to minerals, that the same species must be found in the same climates, *scæc*, according to this supposition, the animals seen at the Cape should be found also in the kingdom of Morocco, in Egypt, and even in some parts of South America; but experience proves the contrary, and that the animals of the Cape and of South America are altogether different. Our author thence concludes, that, at the creation of the world, different animals have had different parts assigned them, since it is not probable that they have all come from one country, to disperse themselves over the whole face of the earth.

Researches into the geographical history of animals present other considerations relating to the history of the globe; that is to say, to those revolutions which the globe has experienced. Our author remarks, that there are many species which move heavily, or which at least have no inclination to make long journeys: from this he concludes, that if in an island we meet with any of those species which do not swim, or which swim very badly, we may believe that island to have made formerly a part of the continent.

After having given a sketch of the preliminary discourse, we shall now proceed to the work itself, which begins in the following manner:

Man, that king of nature, considered as he relates to our researches, deserves the first place: he is endued with more strength and more agility than any created being; he boldly traverses the whole surface of the globe, and establishes himself in every clime wherever he thinks proper, without injury to his corporeal or intellectual faculties—the polar regions, or the equator; the highest mountains, or the deepest mines; every parallel of latitude—all, all are vivified by his activity and industry. Heat and cold, moisture and drought, a heavy or a light air, he equally endures; he is made for all. He places himself, and remains wherever he thinks proper: and, in spite of all

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revolutions, he is more uniform, and more consistent, than any of those animals, which, like himself, are scattered over the surface of the globe, which sufficiently proves his pre-eminence over them. What climate, or what degree of cold is there which man cannot endure; or in which he does not exist? But how, and by what means, does he live in them? Is it to strength of body, or of reason, that he owes that activity, and that firmness in resisting? Such are the first questions which present themselves to the mind. How do climates, and other secondary causes, operate in different parallels? Have these causes been sufficient to effect all those changes which we observe among men? Or has nature in the beginning created individuals for every climate? Where was man first formed? What was his size and figure? Had he four feet or only two? Had he the stature of a giant, or that of a dwarf? Was he white or black.

To answer these questions, Mr. Zimmerman employs the first chapter of his work. We shall follow him step by step.

The whole known earth is the habitation of man; he is found in the eightieth degree of latitude, and perhaps beyond the Greenlander and the Esquimaux: under the equator we behold the negro; the other side of the line, the extremity of South America, and Terra del Fuego, are inhabited by the Pecherais, and other people.

Captain Cook, in the relation of his voyage towards the southern pole and round the world in 1777, says, that he discovered, under the fifty-ninth degree of southern latitude, and the twenty-seventh of longitude, a chain of small islands, in which he found no inhabitants; but our author observes on this head, that as Cook saw only the coasts of these countries, we are not rashly to conclude that they were not inhabited. However this may be, says Mr. Zimmerman, it is sufficient if man inhabits countries as cold as these isles; we may then justly infer, that he might inhabit those southern latitudes. To refute the objection, that the interior parts of Africa, of which we have no knowledge, may be uninhabited, the au-

thor cites the testimony of Battel, who, although he did not visit the interior part of those burning regions, saw however the Giagas and the Anciques, who had penetrated thither with a design to plunder the inhabitants. He therefore concludes, that the warmest as well as the coldest climates are inhabited by man, and that he may equally exist in the midst of ice, as under the most excessive heat.

The author afterwards examines, by the means of a thermometer, the extraordinary difference of temperature that man is capable of sustaining, and which he actually endures. It was believed, that the utmost degree of cold which man could support, was that which old Gmelin * experienced at Jenseisk, under the eighty-fifth degree of northern latitude, and the hundred and tenth of longitude, taken from the island of Ferro. This cold commenced in the month of January; it made the mercury descend to 126 degrees below zero, which is the degree of cold produced by sal ammoniac and ice, according to the gradation of Fahrenheit, which the author follows throughout this work. The birds fell down dead as they were flying through the air, and every thing susceptible of congelation froze. Mr. Zimmerman, however, is of opinion, that such a degree of cold is not to be considered as any thing extraordinary in that country; and he proves it by a passage of the learned Pallas, who says, that under the fifty-sixth degree of latitude, and the hundred and tenth of longitude, he has seen the thermometer fall to eighty degrees below zero. He experienced a still greater degree of cold—he exposed to the air quicksilver, well purified, and it froze so much, as to endure the strokes of a hammer, and to bend. Mr. Zimmerman regrets that Mr. Pallas' thermometer was not large, he might then perhaps have observed it at three hundred degrees below zero; since, in the experiments of Braun, mercury did not become solid till the thermometer stood at 370 de-

* See the preface to his *Flora Siber.*

grees. The cold which the English experienced at Hudson's bay was no less severe. The author is of opinion, that man can endure this, and even a superior degree of cold, provided he keeps himself in motion. His reasons are as follow :

First, It is certain that the Canadians and the Esquimaux, whose habitations extend as far as Hudson's Bay, follow the occupation of the chase in winter, even during the most rigorous cold. In the second place, We cannot suppose that the most northerly Siberians confine themselves to their huts on account of the cold, since the cold being there of long continuance, they would be deprived of the means of subsistence. There are at Nogzack, in Greenland, under the seventy-second degree of latitude, not only Danes who enjoy perfect health; but in the year 1597, some Dutchmen, commanded by Captain Heemkerk, were obliged to pass the winter in Nova Zembla, under the seventy-sixth degree of latitude; some of them indeed died, but those who took care to keep themselves in motion, and who were free from distemper, supported cold, which the white bear, the natural inhabitant of that country, could not endure. According to the journal of these Hollanders, as soon as the sun has quitted the horizon of those countries, not to return again till the end of some months, the cold becomes so rigorous, that all the bears disappear, and the white fox, the *canis lagopus* of Linnæus is alone capable of keeping company with man: every thing endowed with life, whether of the animal or vegetable kingdom, dies, or shrinks in such a manner, that it can be scarcely known again.

Animals, such as the white fox and the bear, which nature seems to have destined to inhabit these regions, and which, for this purpose, she has provided with a very thick skin, cannot however endure so excessive a degree of cold as man, who has no other defence against it but a very slight covering. According to the relation of Crantz, the Greenlanders, during the most intense cold, go with their heads bare, have no covering to their necks, and kindle no fire in their huts. The Canadian savage is very lightly clothed when he hunts in the winter time; and the peasants of Nor-

way, in a climate no less rigorous, labour with their breasts naked, while their horses are covered with hoar frost.

Man, destined to live under the pole, says the author, has received from Providence the means of subsisting there; it has not covered him with a soft skin, but it has supplied his body with thick and warm humours, which is proved by the great heat of perspiration.

Crantz says indeed, that the Greenlanders, in their religious assemblies, exhale such a warmth, that it stops the respiration of Europeans who may happen to be among them, although they have no fire in the place where they are met. Mr. Zimmerman observes, that,

We must not take the heat of the blood nor that of the skin, for the just measure of that degree of resistance which different animals oppose to cold; for in this supposition the cold which Gmelin experienced, would not have killed birds who possess a heat superior to that of man. The heat of the human body* raised Fahrenheit's thermometer to 98 degrees, while that of birds made it ascend to 111. Thus all depends upon the conformation of the body, and that of man is so perfect, that there are scarcely two species of animals which can be compared with him in that respect.

To ascertain with precision the advantages which man enjoys in this point, we must examine, in the second place, what degrees of heat he is capable of enduring. Adanson saw at Senegal, under the seventeenth degree of northern latitude, the thermometer rise, in the shade, to one hundred and eighty degrees. It thence follows, says the author, that Boerhaave is mistaken, when he tells us, that the sun never communicates a greater degree of heat to the atmosphere, than that of ninety-two degrees; since, in the shade even, the thermometer rose above blood heat.

After a number of experiments made by means of artificial heat, it results that in the mine of Brüttingen, near Goslar, the miners endure a heat of more

* See Nov. Com. Petrop. xiii. de Calore Animalium.

than an hundred degrees. In Russia, apartments are commonly warmed to one hundred and sixteen. Professor Richman, that martyr to electricity, worked without any inconvenience, in a place where the heat was equal to one hundred and twenty-five degrees. Banks, Solander, Philips, and Blagden, made a small apartment be heated to the highest degree possible; the thermometers rose at first to 150 degrees, then to 198, and lastly to 211, that is to say, to one degree only below that of boiling water. These observers, says Mr. Zimmerman, remained ten seconds in that burning atmosphere; they experienced much pain in their hands and face, and all the thermometers burst except one. Blagden relates that he heated his chamber to 224 degrees, and that his pulse then beat from 80 to 145 pulsations in a minute; that he raised the same heat to 260 degrees, 48 above that of boiling water, and that having endured it for eight seconds, he began to find a difficulty in breathing. This extraordinary heat is, however, inferior to that remarked by Duhamel and Tillet. These academicians having been deputed to enquire into the nature of a blight which had attacked the grain at Rochefoucault, saw a number of young girls, who were diverting themselves by trying who could longest endure the heat of a stove in which they were baking fruits and provisions; they examined the heat of this stove carefully, with one of Reaumur's thermometers, which marked boiling water at 85 degrees, and they found it to be equal to that of 112, or of 275, according to the gradation of Fahrenheit, consequently fifteen degrees above that of Blagden.

Boerhaave says, that he could not remain the space of one minute in a sugar bake-house, without danger of dying; but, as Mr. Zimmerman observes, this proves only that the warm air affected his body, and that the saline particles with which the atmosphere was charged, rendered it unsupportable.

The experiments which Blagden and Tillet made upon animals, gave the following result: a dog endured a heat of 220 degrees, a gnatcatcher died at $169\frac{1}{2}$, a rabbit easily endured it at 164, a chicken could not sustain 169 but for a very short space; the observer, however, conjecturing that the heated atmosphere which penetrated the body of this animal affected it more than the heat itself, covered it in such a manner, that no part of it remained bare but its head and feet, it sustained then without inconvenience, and for a long time, the heat of 169 degrees. This still proves, in opposition to Boerhaave, that if the degree of heat, of which he speaks, be prejudicial, it arises only from the particular quality of the heated atmosphere. Mr. Zimmerman does not, however, thence infer that artificial heat is to be considered as natural to the human species; on the contrary, he thinks a heat of this nature would undoubtedly shorten the life of man.

The reasons by which he proves that artificial heat is much more destructive than the heat of the sun at the same degree, and in a free atmosphere, are as follow:

First, says he, the atmosphere being confined, since artificial heat cannot operate but in close apartments, experiences no renovation; this undoubtedly must deprive the air of its elasticity, and consequently hurt respiration. In the second place, it is impossible to separate heat from those exhalations which proceed from the matter employed to raise it. Let an apartment be warmed with coals, wood, or turf, and let the stove be shut ever so closely, still, however, some particles will exhale. On the other hand, a great heat brings forth a copious perspiration from those bodies which it penetrates; these perspirations uniting, become hotter and corrupted, and deprive the air of all those qualities which make it favorable to animal life. The case with an open atmosphere, heated only by the sun, is altogether different.

What difference, says the author, a little after, is there between those temperatures in which man can subsist? From 200 degrees below 0, to 230 above it. This proves that man may live under every degree

degree of heat and cold, an advantage he derives from his conformation.

The difference of the pressure which the human body sustains from the atmosphere is no less surprising.

It follows, from the weight and elasticity of the air, says the author, that those who live in valleys support a much heavier and denser column of the atmosphere than those who inhabit the tops of mountains. The mercury which rises in the barometer by the weight of the air, exactly shews this difference of pressure.

All that the author says upon this subject is highly interesting, and cannot fail of affording entertainment to the curious reader.

(To be concluded in our next.)

DE L'ELECTRICITE DES METEORES, &c. *A Treatise on Natural Electricity, and particularly on the Electricity of Meteors.* By the Abbé Bertholon, Professor of Experimental Philosophy to the States General of Languedoc, and Member of several Academies, with cuts. 2 vol. octavo. Paris. 1787.

(Concluded from our last.)

THE chapter upon the causes of earthquakes and volcanoes, is one of those which the philosopher and the naturalist will read with the greatest pleasure. They will there see that to explain these phenomena, various opinions have been formed, and that recourse has been had not only to all the elements separately, but also to their mutual combination. Thales the Milesian, refers the cause of earthquakes to water; others have believed that they were produced by the violent impulse of subterranean torrents and rivers. Anaxagoras and Empedocles imagined them to be owing to fire. Some of the ancients, and several of the moderns, have admitted a central fire to be the cause of these meteors. Anaximander says, that several parts of the earth drop off by reason of their antiquity, and Asclepiades is of the same opinion. Metrodorus, of Chios, assures us, that

they proceed from the internal air of the caverns of the earth being put in motion by the atmospherical air.— Archelaus, Aristotle, Theophrastus, Pliny, and Seneca, assign as the cause of them the action of the winds in various ways. Strato has recourse to a contest between heat and cold, Democritus thinks that several elements occasion earthquakes, and Epicurus maintains that they are caused by a concurrence of all the elements. Upon this subject the moderns have been no less divided. To be short, it will be sufficient to say, that some have attributed them to inflammable matter confined in the bowels of the earth, others to inflammable air, several to the great elasticity of the internal air, highly rarified by the inflammation of pyrites, and others to water reduced to vapour. The author proves that all these causes hitherto supposed are insufficient, and that the electric fluid alone is capable of producing them, with all the circumstances which attend them. Indeed how can we otherwise explain, but by this last cause, the power, number, extent and duration of the effects observed in these terrible convulsions of nature? The reader must peruse the work itself, to have a just idea of all the astonishing phenomena which belong to those general earthquakes that have shaken the whole globe of the earth; of the quickness, almost instantaneous, with which the shocks are produced; of the circumstances which have preceded, accompanied, or followed them; of the facility with which every thing is reconciled by the means of electricity, and of the impossibility of giving any satisfactory, explanation without it. The Abbe relates several curious experiments respecting the communication of the electric fluid to large masses, and at considerable distances, made by Lemonier, in France, Watson, in England, Jallabert and De Luc, at Geneva, Winkler, in Germany, Volta, in Italy, &c. But one of the most decisive proofs of the truth of this opinion is, that often the intermediate places experi-

ence no shock. Even on the same line in which several places are destroyed, some are observed which seem to have been respected by these dreadful convulsions of nature with which the bosom of the earth is torn. Callisthenes relates, that the cities Helice and Buri were destroyed by a dreadful earthquake, whilst the city of Hegion felt none of its effects. Seneca says, that Thebes was not sensible of the least shock when Colchis trembled, and at the time when the city of Hegion was afflicted by the same calamity, Patros, which is so near it, was preserved entire. In that memorable earthquake in Asia Minor, by which twelve cities were destroyed in one night, the plains, and almost all the intermediate spaces, remained in their natural position. However impossible it may be to reconcile this phenomenon with the hypotheses before-mentioned, it may be explained with great facility, by admitting an accumulation of the electric fluid, which naturally tends to diffuse itself equally, and to restore that equilibrium which ought to reign between the atmosphere and the earth.

The ancients, less enlightened, but bolder than we, dared even devise means for preserving themselves from the danger of earthquakes. The reader may see in this work an account of those which the Romans employed, and with success, to guard the ancient capitol from the fatal effects of these meteors. In every evil, when the cause is known, it is easier to apply a remedy; the author therefore has proposed new methods, already well known under the name of preservatives from earthquakes*, a description of which may be seen in this work, with proofs of their utility, which have been admitted by Vivenzio, Sarti, Cavallo, and La Ceppe. It will be sufficient here to quote Buffon, who wrote to the author as follows: "I am perfectly of your opinion with regard to earthquakes; "electricity is the principal cause of

"them, and this electricity is often-
"times not accompanied with any
"sensible fire.—Were the people of
"Naples, Catania, and Lisbon, well
"advised, they would erect your
"preservatives; but when will men
"be enlightened enough to become
"wise and prudent?" Vivenzio, a
philosopher of great eminence, translated into Italian, and wrote a commentary upon Mr. Bertholon's treatise on electricity.

We should launch far beyond our prescribed bounds, were we to follow Mr. Bertholon, in his refutation of all those opinions which have been formed on the cause of earthquakes, in that which he gives of them himself by the happiest application of the principles of electricity; nor shall we attempt to explain the theory of preservatives from earthquakes; for these our readers must have recourse to the work itself. We see that men of the first eminence as philosophers, have subscribed to his doctrine; it appears to be very just, and were we to offer any objection, it would be the impossibility of employing the means he proposes to draw, from a sufficient depth in the bosom of the earth, that superabundance of the electric fluid which produces effects so terrible. We are sensible, that if his method be not sufficient to prevent earthquakes altogether, it may at least prevent those, the causes of which are not at a great distance from the surface of the globe; and truth obliges us to add, that electricity, as Mr. Bertholon proves, communicating at very great distances, this method might very probably discharge those reservoirs of it which are farthest removed from us. It will therefore at any rate be prudent to employ the means proposed by the author, the principal of which are as follows:

To attract at the greatest distance the fulminating matter collected in the bosom of our globe, large iron rods must be sunk into the earth, to as great a depth as possible; the two extremities of which,

* Para—tremblements de terre.

the one concealed, and that which rises above the surface, must be armed with several spikes, or diverging points, made very sharp. The inferior points sunk into the earth, will serve to draw from it the superabundant matter. This electric fluid will be transmitted quite along the metallic substance, and will be discharged afterwards into the atmosphere, under the form of aigrettes, by the upper points or spikes. The lower extremity of the bars or rods may be divided into several long diverging branches, in order that they may unite, in a higher degree, the power of drawing off the electric matter, a property with which points are endued, and which several possess in a much higher degree than one. The upper extremity may be armed also in the same manner, in order that the discharging channels may at least be equal to those which have served to draw forth and conduct the fluid. It may be readily supposed, that these electric rods, to prevent rust, must be done over with varnish, and covered with some bituminous matter, &c. in order that they may be longer preserved.

Mr. Bertholon thinks, that the part sunk into the earth ought rather to be made of lead.

Though the remaining meteors, of which we have to speak, do not so generally impress those who behold them with fear and terror as thunder, earthquakes and volcanoes, they afford, however, matter of curiosity sufficient to induce us to inquire into their nature and cause. Such are those fiery meteors, known to antiquity under the names of Helen, of Castor and Polux, which were sometimes observed on the summits of the masts of ships, and which were considered as prefaces of a storm, or omens of good fortune. The ancients were deceived, when they affirmed that there appeared only one or two of these lights; since Count Forbin perceived more than thirty upon his ship during the time of a storm. We cannot here follow the author in the detail he gives of the observations made on this subject by Pliny, Forbin, Wadel, Dalibard, Sauvan, Lichtenberg. We must also pass over what is said in the following chapters upon the *ignis fatuus*, falling stars, and balls of fire, to make room for enlarging upon the aurora borealis, one of the most magnificent spectacles

that the heavens can exhibit to the human eye.

To give a distinct idea of this brilliant meteor, the Abbe Bertholon describes at length one of the most beautiful of these phenomena which have appeared for a long time, and which he observed some years ago. The description of it is very particular and minute. Large red spots, dispersed throughout different parts of the heavens towards the north and west, were the preludes of the brilliant scene which followed; and this spectacle was so bright, so variegated, and occupied so large a portion of the heavens, that the spectator scarcely knew what part had the greatest claim to his attention. Soon after the segment of a black circle was seen, in a very distinct manner, which was terminated by a luminous concentric arch, indented in some parts. This luminous arch appeared at first to be about 15 degrees in height; afterwards it rose to more than 35; and its amplitude increased in proportion, from 45 degrees, as far as to 75; and even to 115. Luminous pillars, brilliant rays, and streams or flashes of light, seemed to shoot forth from different points of the circumference of this luminous arch, and a small number appeared to proceed even from the dark arch. Mr. Bertholon saw some of them which passed near the hyades, the pleiades, the ram; others by Erichon, Perseus, Cassiopeia, Hercules, and the head of the dragon; and also near the eagle and the swan. This description, which appears to be very complete; and to contain many details, cannot be abridged; nor can those meteorological observations which accompany it. In order that a better idea of this meteor might be conveyed to the reader, the Abbe has added a plate, in which all its phenomena are accurately represented.

The ancients have often spoken of this singular phenomenon, but they were very far from being acquainted with the nature of it. They believed, that the different figures of these lights formed as many different kinds. A,

ristotle, who has spoken of it, compares it sometimes to flame mixed with smoke; sometimes to the light of an expiring lamp; and sometimes to the flames produced by the burning of stubble in the fields. Cicero tells us, that flaming torches were seen in the heavens towards the west, and that the atmosphere appeared as if on fire. Pliny mentions a conflagration observed in the heavens, which seemed ready to fall down to the earth in bloody drops, as happened in the third year of the 107th olympiad, when Philip attempted to subdue Greece. Seneca places this meteor among the number of celestial fires. Titus Livius, Julius Obsequens, and Conrad Lycollhenes have also spoken much of the aurora borealis, as well as several other writers who followed them, which proves that it has appeared at all times.

Philosophers formerly were divided in opinion respecting the cause of this meteor. Some ascribed it to the effervescence of exhalations rising from the earth into the atmosphere; but the situation of the aurora borealis appears to be at a prodigious elevation above that to which exhalations can rise, as may be proved from the observation of the same phenomenon, made in different places remote from one another, and by its parallax. Some have attributed it to the reflection of the sun's rays towards the superior parts of the atmosphere, from the snow and ice of the polar regions; some to the magnetic effluvia; and others to the solar atmosphere, which approaches sometimes very near to that of the earth, &c. but these opinions are far from being satisfactory. It is electricity alone that can unveil this mystery of nature; we must not however assert, in a vague manner, that the electric fluid produces this meteor; it will be necessary to establish indubitable principles, and afterwards to give a clear and precise explanation of its different phenomena. This Mr. Bertholon appears to have executed with much success in the explanation, which he offers in

the manner of geometers. After having established eight incontestible principles, which give us reason to conclude, that the aurora borealis results from a phosphorico-electric light, that is to say, an electric light, either in vacuo or in rarified air, and which is commonly known by the name of phosphorico-electric. To have a proper idea of this theory, the reader must see in the work itself several curious experiments, illustrated with figures, by which the author proves the truth of his opinion. It appeared so agreeable to reason, that even Dr. Franklin himself adopted it, and abandoned the first explanation which he had given of this meteor. Want of room obliges us to pass over the observations confirming this doctrine, made by Canton, Gattoi, Volta, Cotte, Mann, Veis, Bergmann, and several other illustrious philosophers, who remarked evident signs of electricity.

Before he treats of watery meteors in particular, the Abbe Bertholon calculates the astonishing quantity of vapours and exhalations contained in the atmosphere, examines what relates to the manner of their elevation and suspension, why water, which is about 850 times heavier than air, rises however into this fluid to a very great height, a question of no little importance, and which, in our opinion, he has discussed with much method and clearness, and of which the solution is very satisfactory. We next see how vapours, in rising form mists and clouds, in what manner the latter are resolved into rain, sleet, hail, snow, hoar-frost and dew, objects which the author treats of separately, and at full length; but of this part we cannot even give the principal heads; they would swell the present article too much. It will be sufficient to say, that the author always considers these meteors as relating to electricity; that he gives his own observations, and those of other philosophers, respecting the electricity of mist, electric rain, electric snow and hail, &c. such as those of Ronayne, Henley, Achar, Pafumot, Cotte, Guyot, Canton,

Canton, Kinnerley, Winthrop, Barbaret, &c. It may well be supposed, that he does not omit to speak of that extraordinary fog which appeared in 1783; and of the opinions of Lappi, Toaldo, Spallanzani, Daquin, Maret, Castelli, &c.

Water-spouts belong also to the watery meteors. The nature of these, says the author, very justly, was little known, till we had opportunities of observing them on land. The effects they produced on the liquid element, not leaving any durable traces which could be examined after the danger was past, rendered it difficult not to fall into an error. Water-spouts, at sea, have been long observed. Dampier, in his voyages, has spoken of those which he saw. Those who are curious may read upon this subject in the work of which we speak, the observations of Camby, Cook, Forster, Wakefield, Cadwallader Colden, and Mercer. Water-spouts at sea are not uncommon. The Abbe Bertholon speaks of those which have been described or observed by Mather, Lami, Boscowich, Bulet, Buissart, Lefpinasse, Larodde, Jallabert, Cramet. He enlarges much upon the cause of these terrible meteors, and very properly observes, that before we explain a phenomenon, it is necessary to know the circumstances which attend it, as well as its effects, for it is by these means only, that we can discover the cause.

Among the aerial meteors, we find hurricanes, wind-spouts, and other currents of air, objects nearly related, and depending upon the same cause; the intensity of which, is greater or less, and its action variously modified. After having spoken of general, periodical and shifting winds, and of the different causes which have been assigned for them, Mr. Bertholon treats of two new causes, which have not as yet been sufficiently attended to: First, gaseous winds, that is to say, those which are produced by certain effervescences and fermentations, or by the action of fire and heat, operating

in the grand laboratory of nature. Secondly, electricity; the electric fluid, by its motion in passing from one place to another where it is less abundant, agitating a mass of air; more or less bulky, is capable of producing the most impetuous winds. The first cause, which the author assigns to the electricity of the atmosphere appears to be just, since it is founded upon the principles of electricity, the friction of idioelectric matter, with other substances of the same kind, or against non-electric bodies; so that the great friction of several currents of air, one with another, or with masses of quartz sand, or earth, is capable of producing electric winds in other countries. In the chapter of which we speak, the reader will find, as well as in the rest, a great number of curious observations, which contain every thing relating to this phenomenon.

The sixth part of this work, is appropriated to the description of instruments proper for observing the electricity of the atmosphere. The Abbe gives the manner of constructing atmospherical conductors, electrical kites, electric arrows, the curious inventions of modern philosophy. He also mentions the ceramographie, electric balloons, small electrometers, and the particular apparatus of Canton, Volta, Ronayne, Henly, &c. The Abbe likewise relates the means proper for distinguishing the different kinds of electricity, and every thing that relates to the negative electricity of the atmosphere, with new observations on the influence of the electricity of meteors upon vegetables: and treats of electricity, compared with magnetism, by experience and observations. The seventh part contains an account of luminous meteors; the principal of which are, the rainbow, halos, or crowns, parheliions, and luminous circles around the moon, meteors which proceed from the reflexion and refraction of light, rather than from any other cause; and upon which the author is short, in order that

that he may confine himself to his subject; as in this work, new in its kind, he meant to treat on meteors principally, as they relate to electricity.

Mr. Bertholon's theory is supported by numerous observations and experiments, several of which are peculiar to himself. All together, they form a complete treatise, on a subject extremely interesting, which constitutes one of the most curious branches

of natural philosophy, and which it is almost a shame to be ignorant of, because it occurs daily in conversation. What makes the peculiar excellence of this work is, that it is suited to the capacity of every body by the clearness of the author's method. The whole is illustrated with several figures, and we cannot conclude without confessing, that it exhibits a new proof of the abilities and talents of its industrious author.

BRITISH PUBLICATIONS.

LETTERS ON GREECE, being a Sequel to Letters on Egypt, and containing Travels through Rhodes, Crete, and other Islands of the Archipelago. Translated from the French of Mr. Savary. London. Robinsons. 1788.

IT is a misfortune greatly to be lamented, that enthusiasts in literature often injure their constitutions so far by excessive application and study, that they are hurried from the stage of life, before the public have been sufficiently benefited by their labors. This reflection naturally occurs to the mind, on perusing the letters now before us; and we sincerely regret that the ingenious author was not spared to complete them. They are intended as a sequel to his *Letters on Egypt*, a work which met with a very favorable reception, and though they are not, perhaps, finished with that degree of accuracy and correctness, which they would have been, had the author published them himself, they will, no doubt, prove highly interesting to the reader, and to men of letters in particular, as they contain, besides an account of the present state of those countries through which the author travelled, many curious observations respecting their antiquities and history. We do not pretend to say that much new information is to be found in them; but Mr. Savary's manner is pleasing, and on that account, we think they will be perused with more satisfaction than other works of the same kind,

which may be destitute of that advantage.

After residing several years in Egypt, Mr. Savary embarked at Alexandria, in a vessel bound to Zante, with intention of first visiting the island of Candia; but owing to the ignorance of the Captain, added to unfavorable winds, he was carried towards the Coast of Caramania, and obliged to put into harbour in the small island of Castel Rosso, where he remained several days.

This island is situated in the western part of a semi-circular bay, on the Coast of Caramania, or the ancient Lycia. It is about half a league in circumference, and is only separated from the continent by a narrow strait. The coast is inaccessible, except on the side of the harbour, where there is a small town, consisting of about one hundred houses. It is built upon a rock, on the point of which is a small Turkish fort, which serves to frighten away the corsairs. The space it occupies is extremely confined, both by the sea, and a very steep mountain, above three hundred feet high, which has the appearance of a wall, from which huge masses of rock seem ready to fall upon the houses, and precipitate them into the waves. I climbed it with difficulty, and found on its summit a plain, about a quarter of a league in circuit, uncultivated, and nearly covered with grass, half burnt up. In the middle is a small chapel, very wretched and very solitary.

From this eminence we discover the Mediterranean to the north and south, while the rest of the horizon is bounded by the lofty summits of Mount Taurus.

When we descend into the town, we find ourselves in a bottom environed by steep cliffs, which lose themselves in the clouds. These are a circle of bare and hanging rocks, which heated by the sun,

sun, reflect a vivid light, injurious to the eyes. Never did verdure embellish these melancholy shores; we only meet with a few bulbous plants, and thorny shrubs, which delight in such situations. Such is the prospect the inhabitants of Castel Rosso have incessantly before their eyes. It presents the image of eternal sterility; nor do I believe the whole world affords a more desolate and horrid habitation.

You may imagine how wretched the Greeks, who inhabit such a place, must be. They can neither sow nor reap. The island produces neither vegetables, fruit, nor grain. Their plantations are confined to about fifty feet of olive trees, and they have no cattle but goats, which climb among the rocks to find subsistence. To complete their misery, there is only one spring in the island, and that is almost at the top of the hill; from whence the women are obliged to fetch water. I have often seen them laboring up a steep path, carrying large pitchers on their shoulders, and returning heavily laden, at the risk of being dashed to pieces with their burthen. Such a place of abode is not to be envied. Accordingly, the handfomest house lets at twelve livres (or half a guinea) a year; and a bride who receives for her portion a foot of olive ground and a she-goat, is esteemed wealthy.

Fortune seems to have intended to recompence the inhabitants of Castel Rosso, by giving them indolent neighbors. In the time of harvest, they pass over into Caramania, and get in the corn for the Turks. They bring back with them grain, wine, and various kinds of provisions. Their situation has rendered them seamen, and they make voyages during three months of the year, and return in winter, to enjoy, with their families, the gains they have made. Most of them carry on a trade in wood, which they purchase at a low rate and sell high at Alexandria. For carrying this, they make use of decked boats, which do not stow much, but sail very quick, and require little care. They likewise supply their wants by fishing; and by these various means obtain a subsistence.

Could you imagine it, on this desolate spot I found a native of Provence, who is settled here, and connected in business with a Greek; they live in the same house, and are partners in a vessel. The former trades with the Turks, and purchases fire wood, and timber for ship-building, in Caramania, which the other sells in Egypt, from whence, in return, he brings various articles which are useful here. They appear to subsist comfortably, and live in harmony together. The Frenchman considers himself as the agent of his nation,

and renders his countrymen all the services in his power; in return for which, he receives from them some little presents. I have every reason to be satisfied with his politeness. To do us honor he killed a sheep, perhaps the only one in the island, and regaled us in the best manner he could, with Muscadine grapes, gathered on the Asiatic shore. The oriental customs were observed in every thing. We sat upon the ground, seated round the dishes, on the carpet, and, afterward, all drank out of one large cup, the only one, doubtless, in the possession of these partners. Next came coffee, and then pipes, of which we were obliged heartily to partake. I asked our host many questions, and among the novelties I learnt from him, the following appeared worthy to be preferred:

"In my excursions through the mountains of Caramania," said he, "I found at the foot of a tree, somewhat different from the mulberry, large balls or cones of a white and fine silk, much bigger than those of the common silkworm. On examining the leaves, I discovered the insects that produced them, some of which were still spinning. They were caterpillars of a blackish colour, larger than silk-worms. I brought away four of them, and sent them to the Consul at Rhodes; but they cannot have been received, as I have never heard of them more."

I repeatedly requested my host to conduct me to the place where he had seen this species of silk-worm; but he answered, that war having broke out between the Turks of that province, it was impossible to go so far. He promised, me however, as soon as peace should be restored, to send me some of them to Candia, with the leaves of the trees on which they feed. I relate these particulars, to induce travellers who may hereafter visit these countries, to endeavour to procure some of these valuable insects. The trees which grow on the high grounds of Caramania would thrive well in France, and it would be an advantage to mankind in general, and a source of riches to our own nation in particular, could we discover and multiply a new species of worm which produces silk.

After quitting Castel Rosso, Mr. Savary proceeded towards Rhodes, but again meeting with adverse winds, his ignorant conductor was once more under the necessity of steering towards the Asiatic coast, where they took shelter in the Gulph of Macri. Here Mr. Savary had an opportunity of examining the adjacent valley near which

which the ancient city of Telmissus was situated. Telmissus was not a very considerable town; but Cicero tells us that it was celebrated for its soothsayers. Its port is well sheltered; on the west it has Mount Dædalus, on the east the promontory of Telmissus, on the north the high hills which form the basis of Mount Cragus, which Horace distinguishes by the epithet of green*; and on the south, small islands which lie across the gulph and break the violence of the waves. Even at present, vessels which meet with storms may anchor there. This advantage rendered commerce and the arts very flourishing at Telmissus, as is sufficiently proved by the beautiful ruins of its theatre, which are still admired.

It is built fronting the harbour, within the hill, which overtops it on the east; it is of a semi-circular form, and has twenty-four rows of seats. You enter the arena by three gates, of very simple architecture. The right side of it, which is built against the hill, is thrown down, and the seats displaced, are piled up without order; but the rest is in tolerable preservation. This theatre is much less than that of Patara, is neither so large nor so magnificent, nor has it been so well able to resist the ravages of time. We cannot doubt but these edifices were proportioned to the extent and power of the cities by which they were built. I saw the name of Monsieur de Choiseul Gouffier inscribed on the stones of the theatre of Telmissus, which he had caused to be engraved with care.

In accompanying Mr. Savary through this delightful spot, the philosophic reader will be led to contrast the ancient flourishing state of this country, with its present situation, inhabited by wretched Greeks, who, bending under the tyrannic yoke of their Ottoman masters, are discouraged from attempting to reap that benefit from the fertility of the soil which they might do, did they enjoy the valuable blessing of living under a milder government.

The sun, says Mr Savary, continues to enlighten this beautiful valley as in the ages of antiquity. Still is it warmed with the creative beams of that glorious luminary, and the prolific earth still produces in abundance vigorous plants, tufted thickets, and herbage maintained in constant verdure by refreshing streams. But the hand of man is wanting to aid the wild efforts of nature. Thorns spring up instead of useful trees, and rushes now cover large tracks of land, which formerly were productive of golden harvests. Were art to bestow ever so little cultivation on these fields, they would soon be adorned with groves of myrtle, oranges, and pomegranates, and all the treasures of Ceres and Pomona.

The Greeks, who inhabit this valley, leave it entirely waste; not a cultivated acre is to be found. Dispirited and dejected as they are, what could they undertake? Should they sow, or plant, they would be deemed rich, and the Aga would come to seize on their property. The cultivator bedews the earth with his sweat only to reap the fruits of his labour. Deprive him of that hope, he labours no more; and this is the state of the Greeks under the Ottoman empire.

Soon after Mr. Savary had quitted the coast of Asia he reached Rhodes, though not without some difficulty, a violent gale of wind having driven the vessel out to sea, when just about to enter the harbour. We shall not attempt to follow the author in his remarks upon the ancient and present state of this island, we shall only select a few passages, for the entertainment of our readers, leaving them to form their own judgement of the work from the specimens given,

Mr. Savary is rather severe, and we must own, not without justice upon Mr. Rollin, for the account he has given of the celebrated Colossus.

Some modern historians, says the author, wishing to add something of the marvellous to the account of the Colossus, have pretended the feet rested on two rocks, at the entrance of the harbour, and that vessels passed, with all their sails set, between its legs. This fable deserves no regard, since it is contradicted by the silence of antiquity, which certainly would

* *Nigris aut Erymanthi
Silvis, aut viridis Cragi.*

not have neglected to record so remarkable a fact. On the contrary, the historians who mention the fall of the Colossus, as well as those who saw it, testify, that it was lying on the ground; but had it been placed at the entrance of the harbour, it must have fallen into the sea, which circumstance they certainly would not have omitted. It was still in its fallen state in the days of Pliny; as it likewise was as late as the twelfth year of the Emperor Constantine, when Moawiah, general of the Caliph Othman, taking Rhodes, destroyed this statue, which had well deserved to be enumerated among the seven wonders of the world. He sold it to a Jew, who conveyed its fragments to Emesa, on nine hundred camels, nine hundred and thirty-two years after it was first erected.

The soil of Rhodes is dry and sandy, but the numerous springs by which it is watered, render it extremely fertile. Corn thrives there admirably, and its yellow heavy grain affords a flour as white as snow, from which excellent bread is made. If half of the country capable of growing it were cultivated, the Rhodians would have far more than sufficient for their own consumption, and they might export some to foreign countries; but the wretched policy of the Turks, and the miserable situation to which their Greek subjects are reduced by their oppression, have always been highly unfavorable to the progress of agriculture. This island contains two cities; the capital, of the same name, and the ancient Lindus. The former is inhabited by Turks, and a small number of Jews. Five villages, inhabited by Mahometans, and five towns and forty villages, inhabited by Greeks. Of the face of the country we have the following account.

About the middle of Rhodes is a high mountain, which commands the whole island. It is called Artemira, and I imagine it to be the Mount Atabyris of Strabo. On it formerly was a temple of Jupiter, now no longer in existence; but its place is supplied by a small chapel, to which the Greeks make pilgrimages. Mount Artemira is very steep, so that it is impossible to ascend it on horseback, and on foot it takes four hours to reach the top.

When there, we enjoy a most magnificent prospect. On the edge of the horizon, towards the north-east, we discover the summits of Mount Cragus; to the north, the high coast of Caramania; to the north-west, the small islands of the Archipelago, which appear like luminous points; to the south-west, the summit of Mount Ida, capped with clouds; and, to the south, and south-east, the vast expanse of waters which bathe the coasts of Africa. This extensive prospect varies every instant, as it is more or less illuminated by the rays of the sun, and exhibits a moving scenery which astonishes and delights the beholder. After contemplating this grand picture, the eye looks down with pleasure on the island which rounds itself beneath our feet; and here and there we perceive, on the tops of the most lofty hills, ancient pines, planted by nature, that in ages past formed thick forests, which the Rhodians carefully preserved for their navy. At present these trees are not very numerous, as the Turks make use of them to build the Grand Signior's caravelles, and cut down without ever planting. Their solitary shades are at present the retreats of the wild asses, which are remarkable for their surprising swiftness.

Beyond these first heights, we meet with various amphitheatres of eminences, which become gradually lower till we reach the sea. In the greater part of the island, the coast is a gentle and almost insensible declivity; therefore, ships may almost every where anchor at a cable's length from the shore. The hills in general are covered with thorns, or brambles; but on some of them we find vineyards, which still produce the perfumed wine in such request among the ancients. This wine is very pleasant to the taste, and leaves an exquisite flavour in the mouth. The Rhodians added the luxury of drinking it out of voluptuous cups. It would be easy to multiply these vines, and cover with them hills of a great extent, which are now lying without cultivation.

On the shady summit of Mount Artemira a great number of springs arise, which fertilize the plains and vallies. Around the villages, we find a few cultivated spots, and orchards, where the fig, pomegranate, and orange trees though planted without regularity or taste, afford, nevertheless, pleasing shades. The peach trees, which, in the time of Pliny, produced no fruit at Rhodes, are at present very fruitful; but the peaches they bear have neither the flavor nor the delicious juice of ours; as in this country they know nothing of the art of grafting. The palm flourishes here, as in the days of Theophrastus, but produces no fruit. There seems to be a cer-

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tain line drawn by nature for each species of tree, beyond which some will not grow at all, and others become barren.

In passing over the island, we traverse with regret beautiful vallies, without finding so much as a village, a cottage, or even the smallest traces of cultivation. The bottoms of the rocks are covered with wild roses. Myrtles in flower perfume the air with their delicious emanations, and tufts of the laurel-rose adorn the banks of rivulets with their beautiful flowers. The inhabitants suffer the earth to nourish an infinity of useless plants, without endeavoring to direct or profit by its fecundity.

The national character of the Rhodians, is delineated by Mr. Savary in the following manner.

This (the national character) like that of every other people, is modified by climate, government, and religion. The island enjoys the happiest temperature, and its air is pure and salubrious. No epidemical disorders are known, but what are imported from other countries. The westerly winds, which prevail for nine months in the year, moderate the heats of summer; and, in the winter, ice, snow, and even hoar frosts are unknown. In the dulcist day, the sun disperses the clouds, and shews himself at least for some hours; through the whole year he enlightens the island with his benificent rays, fertilizes the earth, and purifies the air, which is naturally humid. "Tiberius," says Suetonius, "made a stay for some time at Rhodes, enchanted with the beauty and salubrious climate of the island." So fine a sky, so delightful a temperature, have a manifest influence on the inhabitants. The Turks born in the island are of a milder disposition, and possess more politeness and urbanity, than in the other provinces of the empire. Less exposed than the Greeks to the rapacity of the great, and peaceably enjoying their property, they here lead a happy life in the bosom of their families, and among them we meet with cheerfulness, integrity, and social manners. The Greeks live under the same sky; but, accustomed perpetually to crouch beneath the iron sceptre that crushes them, they become hypocritical, deceitful, and dishonest. The proudest of mankind in prosperity, they are equally mean and cringing in misfortune. They are infected with all the vices which are the consequence of servitude; yet, compelled, as it were, by the force of climate, they sometimes indulge in merriment.

their joy, however, is not the mild and tranquil joy of the Turks; but a clamorous and irrational mirth; the festivity, in short, of slaves, who, forgetting, for a moment, their wretched condition, dance amid their chains.

Before Mr. Savary could reach Candia, adverse winds compelled him to visit two other small islands, Syme, and Cafos. The former, which received its name from a daughter of Jalyfus, is a dependency of Rhodes.

It is only a rock of small extent, the soil of which, extremely stony, and burnt up by the heat of the sun, produces neither grain nor fruit. A few vineyards among the rocks yield a good wine, but the rest of the island is barren, and nothing is to be found upon it but briars, wild almond-trees, thorns and tufts of myrtle in the more moist places. The fishery for sponges, which grow in abundance round the island, is the only support of its inhabitants. Men, women, and children, all know how to dive, and plunge into the waters in search of the only patrimony bestowed on them by nature. The men; especially, are inimitable in this dangerous art; they throw themselves into the sea, and dive to a very great depth; but they frequently strain themselves by retaining their breath too long, and, on coming out of the water, often vomit great quantities of blood. Sometimes they are in danger of destruction from the monsters of the deep. The knife they carry in their hands would be but an inadequate weapon for their defence; but, accustomed perfectly to distinguish objects through that pelucid element, as soon as they discover these voracious fish, they shoot up with the greatest rapidity from a prodigious depth, and in an instant are in their boat. These particulars I learned from a diver of the country; he complained of violent pains in his loins, the hardships of his condition, and the little profit he derived from his occupation; and I cannot doubt but he had sufficient reason. He had a son with him in his boat, ten years of age, whom he was teaching his trade, the only inheritance he had to leave him.

The bad weather detaining us some days in the harbour of Syme, I made an excursion into the island, and visited the village inhabited by the divers. Every thing I saw was a proof of poverty and distress: the streets are narrow and dirty, and the houses only miserable huts, into which day-light can scarcely penetrate.

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The people, who have a reserved and melancholy air, appear absorbed in their own wretchedness, and exhibit none of that lively curiosity usually inspired by the sight of strangers. Both men and women are dressed in the same manner; they all wear the long robe, the sash and a shawl round their heads, and are only to be distinguished by the difference of features. These miserable people are, besides, subject to a cruel malady. Leprosy, the most hideous of all the scourges that afflict humanity, is very common at Syme. The wretched victims, who suffer from it, are seen stretching out their hands to passers at a distance, and begging alms with a voice scarcely audible; they are separated from all society, and drag on the remainder of a dreadful life in torments. Shuddering at what I saw, I was about to return to the ship, when a Greek priest forced me, by repeated solicitations, to go into his house. He made me sit down on a small wooden seat, the only one he had, while he himself squatted down upon a wretched mat. He told me that he had been at Rome, where he had studied in the seminary *de propaganda*; that he had been made choice of for pastor of Syme, and that he preferred this country to all the charming scenes of Italy. I congratulated him on his taste and his travels, but could not help inquiring within myself how it was possible to like such a place of abode. This good father was very old; a long white beard descended on his breast; his appearance was venerable; and whether he really thought himself happy in the station where Heaven had placed him, or whether he felt a satisfaction in conversing with an European in the Italian language, which he had almost forgotten during forty years absence from Rome, I know not, but pleasure sparkled in his eyes, and he loaded me with compliments. He quitted me for an instant, dived into a dark hole he called his cellar, and returned immediately with a large pitcher of wine; out of which he poured some into a small wooden porringer, and, after moistening his lips, desired me to drink. The appearance of the vessel gave me some disgust, and I wished to decline the compliment, but the laws of hospitality forbade me. It would have been improper to offend any host: I therefore took the cup and drank his health; he drank also to mine, and again presented it to me, but I politely refused. I remembered that Baucis and Philemon dwelt in a little cottage, and that their table was only three feet long; but could not but recollect that their vessels, simple as they were, were neat and shining, and that cleanliness in every thing about them almost concealed their indigence. My

good old man was as poor as that virtuous couple; but his ragged mat, his smoky roof, and his cup as black as foot, had nothing in them to gratify either the sense of smelling, or of sight. I left him with thanks for his politeness; he wished me a prosperous voyage, and we parted good friends.

In our next number we shall accompany Mr. Savary to Cafos, and the Island of Candia, and give some farther extracts from this work.

(To be continued.)

The Microcosm. A periodical Work, by Gregory Griffin, of the College of Eton. The second Edition. Inscribed to the Rev. Mr. Davies. London. Robinsons. 1788.

IT must afford great pleasure to every person of genius and true taste to find that the study of the English language becomes every day more and more extended; that the cultivation of it is not, as formerly, thought an unnecessary part in the system of education adopted in our public schools; and that, while young gentlemen are taught to relish the beauties of Homer, Demosthenes, Virgil, and Cicero, they are accustomed to imitate, in their writing, the purity of Swift, and the elegant simplicity of Addison. A large stock of dead languages alone can form only a dull critic, or a disgusting pedant; something more is required to give genius full scope; and, unless a youth be acquainted with the powers of his own language, the most fertile invention will be fettered, and the most brilliant thoughts lose their force, by their not being clothed in that elegant dress which adds to their dignity, and fixes the attention of the reader by the magic of its charms.

The *Microcosm* is the production of some of the senior scholars of the college of Eton, and, in our opinion, does great credit to its authors, as well as to the masters of that seminary, under whose auspices it has appeared.

peared. Youths who are able to write so well, at so early an age, afford the happiest presages of the future figure they may make on the theatre of public life, when the seeds of knowledge are brought to maturity, and when the luxuriance of fancy hath been properly checked by the rules of sound criticism, and genuine taste. As a specimen of the work, we shall give the following paper on education, written, according to the signature, by Mr. Robert Smith :

The Philosopher Xanthus, says L'Étranger, going one day, attended by his slave Ætop, to a garden near the city, was asked by its owner, (who, in course as a classical gardener, had an exclusive privilege of philosophizing) why, notwithstanding the high culture and artificial nourishment he applied to his exotics, the native weeds, under the disadvantages of a barren soil, were stronger in their growth, and more luxuriant in their vegetation? Xanthus, who, though he could not clothe with his adversary, knew how to parry his thrust, after some reflection turned to Ætop, and with seeming contempt of the question, commanded him to answer it. "All power of vegetation," replied the slave, "is in the hands of nature, who, in this instance, acts with the usual partiality of a step-mother; depressing the produce of art, and invigorating her own hardy offspring with the profusion of parental fondness."

What was in the instance of the vegetable world so well applied by this self-instructed philosopher, may, with equal propriety be observed in the seemingly partial distribution of natural endowments to the human mind; and history does not perhaps furnish us with a more striking instance than his own, of the decided superiority nature will, in all her operations, maintain over the feeble imitations of art. Even under the complicated discouragements of low origin, depressed condition, and want of education, the naturally quick conceptions of this unenlightened slave, reflected a brightness which the artificial polish of acquired knowledge was unable to equal. As we believe that our souls are originally of one substance, and will hereafter universally return to their pristine state, the manifest difference in our powers of mind can only be referred to the different organization of our bodies; and we may conclude, that the different degrees of susceptibility in those secret channels of

connection through which our living agents act, has in some degree the same effect on the mental faculties, which dress has in ornamenting or disfiguring our bodies themselves.

It is evident then, by so remarkable a provision against it, that nature never designed an universal equality in the human species; that she has wisely and impartially divided the orders of mankind, by raising a chosen few to act in a conspicuous sphere; as the objects of laudable emulation, or the melancholy warnings to overbearing ambition; by conducting others, and of these a larger number, by a safer, but less popular road, to honest reputation; and by filling up the vacuum with those, by far the most considerable part of the species, who glide through "the calm sequestered vale of life" with uninterrupted tranquillity, and have no care of protracting their existence beyond the burial service.

Human ingenuity, convinced from early experience, that nature, though an excellent mother, was too capricious in the distribution of her favours for a good politician, has invented a system, (the best criterion of which is, that it has stood the test of so many ages,) not only calculated to restrain the irregular sallies of genius, but even by adscititious knowledge, to render the most barren minds capable of rivaling on some occasions the fertility of original imagination. Education, however differently modelled by capacities endowed with the united advantages of art and nature; however its complexion may vary in the Campus Martius at Eton, and the paved court-yard of a private academy, originally undertaken at the particular request of a few select friends, by a clergyman of unquestionable probity, who will pay the strictest attention to the diet, morals, clothes, and improvements of the young gentlemen committed to his care; is in its object still the same.

Taught, by experience, that a knowledge of the Belles Letters is an universal recommendation, without which unpollished virtue may indeed command respect, but can seldom excite esteem, we make an advantageous exchange of the unthinking leisure of childhood, for laying the permanent foundation of a future benefit. But though classical knowledge is an essential part of a liberal education, it by no means comprehends the whole of it; nor does it follow that a man, who is totally devoid of it, may not fulfil with the greatest propriety the social as well as moral duties. It must be obvious to the eye of the most superficial observer, that all capacities are not adapted to the same path of study; and, on that account, the

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idea of loading the mind indiscriminately with what it can neither relish nor digest, is so palpably misconceived, as hardly to require confutation.

Yet how many Quixotic enthusiasts are there, who, unaccustomed to study mankind, otherwise than through the interpretation of the bigotry of the historian, the spleen of the satyr, or the flattering misrepresentations of the poet, and tinctured with the narrow prejudices of a reclusive life, tally forth in all the terrors of discipline, to undertake the charge of educating a *select number*? Impressed with a veneration for the established mode, their idea of excellence in education is of the same nature with that of Demosthenes in oratory; while true genius sickens at the gross surfeit, and fades away into determined indolence, or despairing ignorance: and natural dulness, at too low an ebb to be further depressed by external accidents, is crammed with a crude mass of indigested learning; like a green goose at Michaelmas, or a mathematical ignoramus before his examination. Totally unadapted for the world, the self-sufficient pedant naturally looks up to learning as the sole end of life; and expects the same deference among mankind, as his preceptor has hitherto exacted for him, from his less laborious equals. Till splenored at human nature for undeceiving him, he expires a misanthrope; or, as his utmost prospect of exaltation, lives a Bentley, to roar at the searching severity of a Swift's contempt.

Let us now examine of what superior efficacy is that milder system, which endeavours more at mixing pleasure with utility; and holds liberality of sentiment, knowledge of mankind, and unassuming politeness, not unworthy the study of a learned man. Whatever may be the established practice of the wife in the great world of dying as naked as they were born, I affirm, that nobody ever passed through *this world* without being the richer for it. A citizen of this republic has had the peculiar advantage of preparing himself for his intercourse with mankind, by his own experience. Not to mention the miniature representation of the passions and affections in their most lively colours, which in the course of this work, I have more than once touched upon; the different situations also into which chance in after-life may cast him, are here subjected to his consideration. He has here a practical opportunity of separating obedience from servility, and tyranny from authority; nay, still farther, as his happiness hereafter, in a great measure, depends on his established character here, his approaching exit requires, in some measure the

same circumspection, which old age will call for at some future period of existence.

The classics are our grand road to reputation, all the honorary distinctions of our political system are confined to excellence in that line. But supposing, as is frequently the case, we are not naturally endowed with a taste for their elegancies, there are still secondary pursuits sufficient to crown with success the different efforts by which our universal ambition prompts us to be known. Socrates, though totally unqualified for a general or a politician, was still a great man; and Cæsar, though he preferred an active enjoyment of present good, to the pursuit of abstracted ideas, was the same. But had the blind obstinacy of a parent, or the mistaken pendency of a master, placed the one in the field of Philippi, the other in the grove at Athens, though the extent of capacity which in their present exalted situations characterizes them, might possibly have extricated them from the *scrape*, in all probability the philosophical and political world would have wanted two excellent topics of conversation.

May we not then with justice conceive, that, from the frequent intervening of these casualties, the promising greatness of many a Cæsar has been blasted in the bud? and if so, is not an attention to the bent of genius, or rather the allowance of a sufficient liberty for its natural luxuriance, a point to be considered in education? A shoot when grafted on an ungenial stock, will fade and lose its original beauty; whereas, when nature is consulted by the skilful botanist, and admitted to a share in an operation on which she alone has the power of conferring success, the alien plant derives additional strength, from the nutritive powers of a sap congenial to its own.

In like manner, as the human mind is every where strongly analogous to the natural system, a cricketer will, in poring over a page of Horace, lose the trophies which await him as hero of the Hampshire, and bulwark of the White Conduit; and exchange the invigorating commendations of a Small, Shock, White, or Lumpy, for the dull drudgery of blundering through ten long years of scholastic labor. The poet will be equally circumstanced in the field; no innate consciousness of knowledge can console him for the ridicule of an unforeseen trip; no muse on Parnassus secure his wicket; or Minerva, however servicable he might formerly have been on similar occasions, avert an all-levelling bowl from the nervous arm of his Bæotian adversary.

A TOUR

A TOUR IN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND, in the Year 1785. By an English Gentleman. London: Robinsons, 1788. Octavo.

AMONG the many advantages arising to society, from science being enlarged and commerce extended, we may reckon the lessening, if not the total abolition of that national prejudice, which hath so long disgraced even some of the most polished nations of Europe. The French, if we may judge from the number of eminent characters from that country who visit us, no longer consider England as a country inhabited by barians, and Englishmen now begin to look upon the dreary heaths, and bleak hills of Scotland, as objects not quite so frightful as they were formerly taught to believe. Scotland, of late, seems to have particularly excited the curiosity of its southern neighbours; and the expedition of Johnson and Pennant into that country, evidently prove, that its natural curiosities are not unworthy the attention of philosophers; and that the inhabitants, notwithstanding the unfavorableness of the climate, are no strangers to the pleasures of society or the enjoyments of civilized life.

This agreeable traveller took his departure from Oxford, accompanied by some friends, on the 17th of May, 1785. Their route was through Stratford-upon-Avon, Birmingham, Litchfield, Derby, Chatsworth, Manchester, Carlisle, &c. In this part of the journey we find little to attract our attention. Speaking of Litchfield, the author says,

This was the birth-place of Dr. Samuel Johnson, of whom so much has been said, that it is but little that can remain for the curiosity of his greatest admirers. I was informed of two singularities in this great genius, which, I think, have escaped the researches of all his biographers. There is a great iron ring fixed by a staple in a stone in the centre of the market-place, which formerly served as a necessary instrument in the savage diversion of bull-baiting. When Johnson happened, in his walks, (for he paid an annual visit

to Litchfield) to pass by this spot, he would frequently, in the midst of those reveries in which he seemed to be involved, step aside, and stooping down, lay hold of the ring and pull it about, as if he had been trying whether he was able to extricate it from the stone in which it was fixed. The other remarkable particular concerning Dr. Johnson, which has not been mentioned by his numerous biographers, is, that he made it a point when he made his annual visit to the place of his nativity, to call on every person in that city, with whom he had the least acquaintance; but that the instant he knocked at the door, he would, without giving time for opening it, pass on to another, where he would do the same thing: so that it frequently happened, that two or three servants would be running after the doctor, requesting that he would return to their masters or mistresses houses, who waited to receive him. The people of Litchfield were long, I avoid speaking in the present time, strongly tainted with Jacobinism. When the Pretender, at the head of some Highland clans, had marched in 1745 into Lancashire, the inhabitants of Litchfield, it is said, waited for his arrival there, in his progress to the capital, with impatience. The profound reverence that Johnson entertained for monarchical principles, and hierarchical establishments, was in perfect conformity, and perhaps originally derived from the genius that predominated in the place of his nativity.

A very singular club is held annually at Litchfield of females only. It consists of an hundred members and upwards; and however extraordinary this meeting may appear, yet it seems to have been established from the best of motives, for I have been informed, that a considerable sum of money is annually collected, and distributed among the poor of the city. About a mile from Litchfield is Barrow-crope Hill, remarkable for being the burying-place of three Saxon kings, who were slain in battle.

In passing the Peak of Derbyshire, the author visited that celebrated cave called the Devil's A—e, of which we have the following description.

Near to this place is the celebrated cavern called the Devil's A—e, the mouth of which is really tremendous, being fourteen yards in height and depth, and ten yards wide. After having advanced to the end of the mouth, you are conducted through a small door, which leads you into the cavern. At 450 yards from the entrance you come to the first water, the roof of the rock gradually sloping till it comes

comes within about two feet of the surface of the stream which passes through the cavern. This water is to be crossed by lying down flat, in a small boat on some straw. The boat is pushed forward by the guide, until you get through this narrow and low place, which is about four yards long. After landing on the other side, you come to a cavern seventy yards wide and forty yards high, in the top of which are several large openings; though the candles were not sufficient to enable us to see their full extent. Having crossed the water a second time, on the guide's back, you come to a cavern called Roger Rain's house, because from its roof there is a continual dropping of water. At this place you are entertained by a company of singers, who have taken another path, and ascended to a place called the Chancel, about thirty feet higher than the place on which you stand; where, with lights in their hands, they sing various songs. The effect of the whole is very striking. The water is, in all, crossed seven times; but you can step over it, except at the two first places: At one place, the stream is lost in a quick-sand, but emerges again at a great distance, without the cavern. The whole extent of this extraordinary subterraneous place, as measured by Sir Joseph Banks, is 617 yards, and at the furthest end, is upwards of 200 yards from the surface of the earth. At this spot the rock comes down, and closes with the water, so as to preclude all farther passage: but, as there was reason to believe, from a sound that was constantly heard, that there was a cavern beyond this boundary, a gentleman, about four years ago, was determined to try if he could not dive under the rock, and rise in the cavern, on the other side. With this desperate resolution he plunged in with his feet foremost; but, as was expected, struck his head against a rock. In this state he remained a considerable time, till at last he was dragged out by the hair of the head. About the middle of the old cavern, the man who shews this place, has found out another passage, in a different direction, which he calls the New Cavern. Into this we went, with difficulty, about an hundred yards; but the stones were so loose under our feet, and the roof of the cavern, in several places so low, that we did not choose to take the trouble of going farther, though the guide says, that its extent is near 200 yards. This man is so eager in pursuit of new wonders in this cave, that I should not be in the least surprised to hear of his being buried or drowned in it; for, in winter, the whole of this subterraneous place is sometimes full of water, as clearly appears from a great quantity of mud and sand which

stick to the rocks on all sides. It is indeed the passage of the water that has evidently been the cause of this natural curiosity. This has washed away, in the course of time, the mud and sand which filled the cavities of the rocks, and thus scooped out those vacant spaces which form the caverns.

If this tremendous cave were properly lighted up, and music placed in different parts, with the witches in Macbeth and their cauldron, and other infernal agents and machines, such as are introduced on the stage, a more wonderful effect might thereby be produced, than has ever resulted from any mimic or natural scene.

Of Manchester the author observes, that the industry of its inhabitants, and the extent of the manufactures carried on in it, cannot fail to excite the most agreeable sensations in the minds of Britons; and that if it be inferior to Birmingham in point of extent, it is superior to it in its police or internal regulation, and also in the style in which the people live.

The population of this great town is not less than 75,000. There are not so many people of middling fortunes as in Birmingham, but there are more persons who have great fortunes: a circumstance which is to be accounted for, from the nature of the Manchester manufactures, which cannot be so well carried on as those of Birmingham, by tradesmen of small capitals. The manufacturers of Manchester live like men of fortune, which indeed they are.

The greatest part of the people are engaged in some useful art, but principally in finishing the goods that are manufactured in the neighbourhood. The mills, which I have before mentioned, prepare the cotton for the weavers, and Manchester completes the work. From hence the goods are carried to every part of the world; the conveyance of these being greatly facilitated by the communication which the canals afford with the sea, on either side of the island.

Manchester is the best regulated town in England, though, like Birmingham, it is not governed by magistrates of its own, or a town-council, but by the gentlemen of the town, who are at great pains to establish order and good manners among the lower people, by good regulations. The people again being mostly weavers, and consequently, orderly and domestic, are very tractable, and susceptible of good government.

(To be continued.)

A Short Account of the PRINCE OF WALES'S ISLAND, or PULO PEENANG, in the East-Indies, given to Captain Light, by the King of Quedah. Stockdale, London, 1788, 2s 6d.

PULO PEENANG, or the Prince of Wales's Island, is situated in about $5^{\circ} 30'$ of north latitude, and $98^{\circ} 40'$ east longitude, at the entrance of the streights of Malacca, and so close to the coast of Malaya, near the part called Quedah, that the intervening strait resembles a river, on account of its narrowness. This island, which is about a week's sail distant from the coast of Coromandel, is between thirty and forty miles in circumference, and was given by the King of Quedah to Captain Light, a gentleman in the India marine service, who has resided a long time amongst the Malays, and understands their language perfectly. He had assisted the above Prince, in quelling some commotions which had arisen in his dominions; who, in return, bestowed upon him a Princess of the blood, in marriage, together with this island as her dowry. It was named the Prince of Wales's island, on the 11th of August, 1786, being the eve of his Royal Highness's birthday. It appears that this Island may be of considerable benefit to the East-India Company, for besides other advantages, it will afford shelter to the East-India ships that lose their passage to China. It abounds with wood, and there are some large trees upon it, which are fit for making masts; it produces also sugar-canes and rice, where cultivated; and cattle, hogs, poultry, and different kinds of fruits and vegetables may be procured on it, at a reasonable rate. This volume is accompanied by a neat view of the north point of the island, and two charts, one of the Indian Ocean, with the situation of Pulo Peenang; and the other of the Streights, with part of the adjacent coast of Quedah; which will, no doubt be very serviceable, to those who navigate the Indian seas.

POEM to the Rev. Messrs. Ramsay and Clarkson, Granville Sharp, Esq. Capt. Smith, and the Respectable Society of Quakers, on their benevolent Exertions for the Suppression of the Slave-trade. By J. N. Puddicombe, M. A. Richardson, 1s. 1788. Quarto.

MR. PUDDICOMBE employs his poetical talents, which are far from being contemptible, in a manner that does equal credit to his feelings and his understanding. To pay a just tribute of applause to those whose bosoms glow with benevolence and humanity—to those who have so nobly, and, we are happy to say, so successfully, exerted themselves in behalf of a set of men deprived of the valuable blessings of liberty, and whom British pride hath long considered as one degree only above brutes, is undoubtedly laudable and praise-worthy, and we give the author full credit for the warmth of his zeal. The language of this little poem is correct, and the versification harmonious:—as a specimen, we have selected the following lines:

Is Britain number'd with th' opprobrious throng,
Who (friends of Rapine, advocates for Wrong)
Condemn a guiltless inoffensive train
To feel th' inhuman lash, the galling chain,
The bitterness of servitude to prove,
Far from their native clime, and all they love?
Britain, whose generous deeds, and spotless name,
So oft have fill'd the echoing trump of Fame;
Dares she, without a plea her guilt to shade,
Their darling birthright, Liberty, invade,
Sweet Liberty, impartial boon of Heav'n,
To all mankind without distinction giv'n?
Can she, un pitying, see her patient prey
In bleeding labour languish out the day,
And soon at night resign the sweets of sleep,
To count the live-long hours, to toil and weep?
And does she thus His blest example slight,
Whose yoke is easy, and whose burden light?

POETRY.

P O E T R Y.

ODE TO MELANCHOLY.

BY THE REV. MR. WHITEHOUSE.

SISTER of soft ey'd Pity, hail !
 Say in what deep-sequester'd vale,
 Thy head upon thy hand reclin'd,
 Sitt'st thou to watch the last faint gleams of
 light ;
 To mark the grey mists sail along the wind,
 And shadows dim that veil the brow of night ?
 Or 'neath some rock abrupt and steep,
 Hear'st thou the hoarse refounding deep,
 Whilst from many a murky cloud,
 Blue light'nings flash by fits, and pealing loud
 The solemn thunder shakes th' aerial hall ?
 Or lonely loit'ring o'er the plain,
 See'st thou the glimm'ring landscape fade,
 And bidd'st the soul-commanding lyre
 Some such magic numbers chuse
 As love and tenderness inspire,
 And heav'n's own calm around diffuse,
 Till the sorrow-soothing strain
 On the rapt ear with nectar'd sweetness fall,
 Lift'n'ing; and held in mute attention's chain ;
 And all the soul dissolv'd and fainting lie
 In rapture's holy trance and heavenly ecstacy.

II.

O teach me, nymph, retir'd and coy,
 That lasting and substantial joy
 From peace of mind, and sweet content that
 springs,
 And cast thy milder tints o'er all
 That may my wilder'd feet befall,
 While through this vale of tears I go—
 But never may my soul those sorrows know
 Which shook from bleak Misfortune's
 wings,
 Blast all the bloom of life, and wide diffuse
 Their cold ungenial damps on fancy and the
 muse.
 Nor yet permit my steps to stray
 Where on the river's marge sits wild despair,
 Wittfully gazing on the fearful deep ;
 Whose looks the dark resolve declare,
 Whose horrid thoughts have murder'd
 sleep :
 Hence too that other fiend whose eye balls
 glare, [weep,
 Madness, who loudly laughs when others
 And fiercely talks around, and shakes his
 chain ;
 Hence far away, ye hideous train,
 Go, join the shrieking Stygian crew,
 Or there where furies in their bow'r,
 Watch the dreadful midnight-hour,
 Hung o'er the taper dim and farnace blue ;

But ne'er with madd'ning steps invade
 The muses' consecrated shade,
 Or bid her soothing numbers cease
 To bless the tranquil hour of peace !
 Where love and joy their sabbath keep,
 Whom rapture only taught to weep.

III.

Come then, with fancy by thy side,
 In all thy robes of flowing state,
 To genius evermore ally'd,
 On whom the pensive pleasures wait ;
 Teach me to build the lofty rhyme,
 And lift my daring song sublime
 To that unequal'd pitch of thought,
 Which once the seraph, Milton, caught,
 When wrapt in his immortal theme,
 He mus'd, by Siloa's hallow'd stream ;
 But since this boon must be deny'd,
 Be mine that solemn dirge of woe
 Breath'd from the tender lyre of Gray,
 Who oft' at ev'ning's fall would go
 To pour mid't rustic tombs his polish'd lay ;
 Th' historic draught shall never fade,
 And many a youth to fame unknown,
 Shall bend beneath the yew tree's shade,
 To trace the line that marks his stone ;
 There shall the village maids be seen
 Where the forefathers of the hamlet
 sleep ;
 And while the muse records the scene,
 Hang o'er their turf-clad graves and weep ;
 Oblivion's rude and waitful hand
 Shall ne'er this little group efface ;
 For time shall bid the colors stand,
 And lend their charms a finish'd grace.

IV.

Nor yet where Auburn crowns the smiling
 vale,
 Pass, thou 'lorn maid, unheeding by ;
 Where yon poor matron tells her tale,
 And points to the enquiring eye,
 Where once her little mansion stood,
 Shelter'd by a neighb'ring wood ;
 Recording in her homely phrase
 The simple joys of former days :
 Thus then, O Melancholy ! o'er my lays
 Thy faintly veil of sadness throw ;
 And give my numbers void of art,
 To touch the thought, to reach the heart,
 And bid the tear of pity flow ;
 For if the muse may e'er unblam'd design,
 Or if her hand can color ought ;
 'Tis when thy spirit prompts the line,
 Gives manliness to verse, and energy to
 thought.

F f

, ELEGY.

E L E G Y.

BY THE SAME.

SWEET Peace! who oft beneath the sylvan
shed,

Liv't on coarse fare, companion of the poor;
When shall again my board by thee be spread,
When wilt thou come to greet me at my
door?

Once thou would'st come, and no unfocial
guest,

Or guide my pencil, or inspire my lay;
With me at night on the same pillow rest,
And cheer me with thy song through all
the day.

Now far from me, upon the yellow mead,
Oft art thou by some gentle shepherd seen,
Thy even numbers harmonize his reed,
Thy even-numbers, like his mind, serene.

But should some beauteous charmer of the
plain
Deprive his bosom of its wonted rest,
No more, sweet peace! wilt thou inspire his
strain,
No more wilt thou repose upon his breast:

Sorrow shall come, and heart-corroding care,
Deep in his breast to fix their fatal darts,
And jealousy his poison'd draught prepare,
And wily falsehood practise all her arts.

On his bent brow stern discontent shall low'r,
Remorse shall on his bleeding vitals feed;
Or wan despair in an accursed hour,
Impel her victim to some ruthless deed.

Nor friends, nor books, nor arts shall ought
avail,
Though science erst his op'ning mind in-
And time for him drew back his hoary veil,
Nurs'd him to freedom, and to virtue
warm'd.

Ev'n memory's soft group shall pass away,
And heav'nly fancy's brightest visions fade,
Till ev'ry faculty and sense decay,
And fate surround him with her endless
shade.

ON THE SILK - W O R M.

BY A YOUNG LADY.

NOW to the various silk-worm turn thine
eyes;

Not Ovid's lively fancy could devise
A change more wonderful than this dis-
plays,
From a small egg, matur'd by Phœbus' rays,

A maggot bursts to light, then creeps a worm,
And Thisbe's* leaves support her tender
form;

She spins her curious web, and subtly roll'd,
There sleeps securely in its silken fold:
But soon to life awakes and tempts the
sky,
On silver wings a beauteous butterfly.

Thus the pale corpse, deserted by the mind,
Tho' for a while to gloomy death consign'd;
At the last trumpet's sound again shall rise,
To taste pure joys above the radiant skies.

H. W.

ON BEN - L O M O N D,

A CELEBRATED MOUNTAIN IN SCOT-
LAND.

STRANGER, if o'er this pane of glass,†
perchance,

Thy roving eye shall cast a casual glance,
If taste for grandeur and the dread sublime
Prompt thee *Ben-Lomond's* fearful height to
climb,

Here gaze attentive; nor with scorn refuse,
The friendly rhymings of a tavern muse.
For thee that muse this rude inscription plann'd
Prompted for thee her humble poet's hand.
Heed thou the poet, he thy steps shall lead
Safe o'er yon towering hill's aspiring head;
Attentive, then, to this informing lay,
Read how he dictates, as he points the way.
Trust not at first a quick advent'rous pace,
Six miles its top points gradual from the base.
Up the high rise with panting haste I pass'd,
And gain'd the long laborious steep at last.
More prudent thou, when once thou'lt pass
the deep,

With measur'd pace, ascend the lengthen'd
steep,

Oft stay thy steps, oft taste the cordial drop,
And rest, O! rest, long, long, upon the top.
There hail the breezes, nor with toilsome haste
Down the rough slope thy precious vigor waste.
So shall thy wondering sight at once survey
Vales, lakes, woods, mountains, islands,
rocks, and sea;

Huge hills that heap'd in crowded order stand,
Stretch'd o'er the northern and the western
land;

Vast lumpy groups, while *Ben*, who often
His loftier summit in a veil of clouds,
High o'er the rest displays superior state,
In proud pre-eminence sublimely great.

One side all awful to the gazing eye,
Presents a steep three hundred fathoms high.
The scene tremendous, shocks the startled
sense,

With all the pomp of dread magnificence:
All these, and more, shalt thou transported see,
And own a faithful monitor in me.

* The mulberry-tree. † These lines are written on a pane of glass, at the inn of Tarbat.

ARS MENTIENDI; OR, THE ART
OF LYING.

FROM THE MICROCOSM.

WHEN fordid man, by justice unre-
strain'd,
Rang'd the wild woods, and food by
plunder gain'd;
Yet unenlighten'd by mild Reason's ray,
Coarse Nature rul'd with undisputed
sway.

But when some sage's great aspiring mind,
By bonds of mutual interest link'd man-
kind,

Then Art restrain'd her sister's wide do-
main,
And claim'd, with Nature, a divided
reign.

Yet still distrustful of her own success,
She sought to please, by wearing Nature's
dress.

So that great art, whose principles and
use,

Employ the pen of my unworthy muse,
Tho' great itself, in these degenerate
days,

Is forc'd to shine with adscitious rays,
Nor ever can a lasting sceptre wield,
Unless in robes of purest truth conceal'd.

Hear then, whoe'er the arduous task
will try,

Who with with sense, with skill, with
taste to lie;

Ye patriots, plotting ministers disgrace,
Ye ministers who fear—a loss of place;

Ye tradesmen, who with writs the sops
entrap,

Ye sops, who strive those tradesmen to
escape,

Ye reverend Jews, enrich'd by Christian
spoil,

Ye parsons, who for benefices toil;
No longer hope by open war to win,

Cease, cease, ye fools, to lie “*through
thick and thin.*”

“But know this truth, enough for rogues
“to know,”

Lies ne'er can please the man who thinks
them so.

Would you by flattery seek the road to
wealth?

Push not too hard, but slide it in by
 stealth.

Mark well your cully's temper and pur-
suit,

And fit to ev'ry leg the pliant boot.
Tell not the spendthrift that he hoards

with sense,
Tell not the miser that he scorns expence.

Nor praise the learning of a dunce pro-
fess'd,

Nor swear a sloven's elegantly dress'd.
Thus, if by chance, in harmless sport and

play,
You coolly talk a character away;

Or boldly a flat perjurer appear,

Nor gallows dread, nor lacerated ear,
Still let your lies to truth *near neighbours*
be,

And still with probability agree.

So shall you govern with unbounded reign,
Nor longer cringe, and toil, and lie in
vain;

While Truth laments her empire quite
o'erthrown,

And by a form usurp'd so like her own.

PROLOGUE TO THE NEW COMEDY OF

WAYS AND MEANS.

WRITTEN BY A FRIEND.

SPOKEN BY MR. PALMER.

ARE all the members here? I miss some
faces;

My honourable friends, pray take your
places!

For lo! with head and heart at your de-
votion,

To night our bard brings forward a new
motion.

Opens his budget in the following scenes,
And to your candour trusts his “*Ways
and Means.*”

Some testy critic, with contemptuous
sneer,

Exclaims—“a poet and a financier!
“In paths untrodden rashly dare ad-
“vance,

“And blend poetic numbers with fi-
“nance?”

At first the censure may not seem untrue,
For what has fiction with finance to do?

Yet, since all fashions have been learnt
from France,

There's nothing now but *fiction* in finance.
Be it my task with triumph to explain

The vast resources of the poet's brain?
No earthly house has he that needs repair,

He builds ideal castles in the air.
Parnassus yields his muse a soft retreat,

While rich Pactolus flows beneath his feet.
Yet in these days of commerce and plain

sense,
When poetry is valued less than pence,

Some hard prosaic butcher may refuse
A leg of mutton to a hungry muse,

Unfeeling tappers, cold to fancy's beams,
Won't barter porter for Pactolian streams,

Not Homer's verse, nor Orpheus' found-
ing lyre,

Could buy one peck of coals to feed their
fire.

From other's woes our bard experience
gleans,

And turns his active muse to Ways and
Means.

Do you grant largely the Supplies; nor
fear

A tax too heavy for another year!

EPILOGUE

E P I L O G U E.

WRITTEN BY THE AUTHOR OF THE
COMEDY.

SPOKEN BY MR. PALMER.

[Squabbling behind the Scenes.]

I TELL you I must and will speak—
How! not fit?
Pooh, pr'ythee!—I will but harangue
them a bit;

[Comes on.]
—Excuse me, good folks! I'm just
popt from the pit.
I'm a Critic, my masters; I sneer, splash,
and vapour;
Puff party; damn poets; in short—*Do*
a paper.

My name's Johnny Grub—I'm a ven-
der of scandal:
My pen, like an auctioneer's hammer,
I handle,
Knocking down reputations—by one
inch of candle!
I've heard out the play—yet I need not
have come—

I'll tell you a secret, my masters, but
mum!

Tho' ramm'd in amongst you, to praise
or to mock it,

I brought my *critique*, cut and dry'd, in
my pocket.

We, great paper Editors, strange it ap-
pears!

Can often, believe me, *dispense with our*
ears.

The author, like all other authors, well
knowing

That we are the people to set him a going,
Has begg'd me just now, in a flattering
tone,

To publish a *friendly critique* of his
own;

For it seems 'tis expected, because we are
free,

We're bound to *praise* all the damn'd
nonsense we see.

Hence comes it, the houses, their empti-
ness scorning,

At low ebb at night, *overflow* in the morn-
ing!

Hence audiences, seated at ease, at the
play,

Are squeeze'd to a mummy, poor devils!
next day!

Even actors themselves will extort some-
thing from us,

And the vilest performer's an actor—of
promise:

While self-praising authors write volumes
on volumes,

And puffs ev'ry morning, like smoke, rise
in columns.

Our bard of to-night—I had tickled him
sweetly,

Foists his puff upon me—damn it, mine
was so neatly

Work'd up—'tis a pity—an excellent pill—
Some sweet—three parts four—shall I read
it?—I will!

"Last night—*Little Theatre*—Comedy,
" name

" Ways and Means—unproductive—plot
" blind, language lame.

" As the author *has* parts—our advice in
" this play

" Is—new model the story—but *this* by
" the way—

" His dialogue too—he may trust to our
" print—

" Is, tho' poor, gross and vulgar—but
" *this is a hint.*

" Impartial's our motto—there's really
" no end

" To his puns and his quibbles—we *speak*
" as a friend.

" That the Actors had doubts on't we
" cannot help thinking,

" For they all did their utmost to keep it
" from sinking.

" Young Bannister bustled, in hopes of
" its rising,

" And Palmer's exertions were really
" surprising!"

So much from *Our selves*—what the au-
thor advances

To support Ways and Means, will ne'er
mend his finances.

He calls it a light summer thing—and with
him

His pun is all laugh, and his quibble all
whim—

In short, his critique would so tire you to
hear it,

I must publish my own—or else some-
thing that's near it.

If therefore in any one paper you see
An abuse of the Play, whatsoever it be;

Wherever the Poet shall find a hard rub,
That Paper, depend on't, is *done* by John
Grub!

DE VIRO QUODAM, UXOREM
SUBMERSAM QUÆRENTE.

FLUMINE demersam sociam crescentē
maritus

Quærit, et inverso tramite carpit iter.

Quo fluit unda, virum quidam jubet ire,

sinistrum

Fluminis accedis cur male sane caput?

Uxor in æterum non invenietur, amice,

Alter ait, recto si pede forsan eam,

Moribus illa meis semper contraria vixit,

Quis neget adversus quin modo serpat

aquas?

MONTHLY

MONTHLY REGISTER.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Vienna, August 13.

THE latest letters from Semlin mention, that his Imperial Majesty, after a slight indisposition which had confined him to his apartment for several days, had again resumed his usual exercise on horseback, and that his health was almost entirely re-established. There had been no alteration whatever in the position of the army; and the sickness amongst the troops was augmented to a very alarming degree. The diseases under which they labour are chiefly fevers, agues, and the dysentery; but there is not the smallest symptom of any contagious or epidemical distemper in either of the armies.

Marshall Laudohn set out very early this morning for Croatia, where he will put himself at the head of the army lately under the command of Prince Charles Lichtenstein. The head-quarters are at Czerovlyani, on the river Unna, and Marshal Laudohn is expected to arrive there in three or four days.

The Grand Vizir has pitched his camp near to Nissa, and on the high road to Belgrade.

Vienna, August 16. Letters from the Bannat of Temeswar, of the 7th and 8th inst. mention, that a large body of Turkish troops made an irruption on the 7th into the Austrian territory in that province, and took possession of Altoniova, Schupaneck, and several other villages; that they had set fire to the two first mentioned places, and reduced them to ashes; but that General Wartenleben, who commands at Meadia, in that neighbourhood, had made the best preparations to give the invaders a warm reception at a defile near Schupaneck.

Paris, Aug. 23. We have this day received the disagreeable intelligence that the Marechal de Castries, one of our most valuable East-India ships, is lost in coming out of the port of Sierra-Leona, in Africa, where she had anchored in her passage home from Mocha. No part of the cargo has been recovered; but the crew and the passengers are all saved. She was chiefly laden with coffee; and the loss is said to exceed 1,000,000 livres, for which she had been insured, partly in Paris, partly in Holland, and partly in London.

Naples, Aug. 26. Her Sicilian Majesty was this day happily delivered of a Prince.

Vienna, Aug. 27. The last letters from the Bannat advise, that the Emperor arrived at Weiskirchen on the 20th instant. Whilst his Imperial Majesty was on his

march, the Turks made strong efforts to penetrate into the heart of that province. They attacked a defile, called the Veteranische Hole, with great fury, made themselves masters of an advanced post, and put to the sword two divisions of Brechainville's regiment of foot, giving quarter neither to officers nor soldiers. They made several unsuccessful attempts to carry the principal post, but were always beat back with great loss. This however appeared to be only a secondary object with them. Their principal one was to drive General Wartenleben from the heights, where his corps was advantageously posted near Meadia. For that purpose the Seraskier of Georgia was detached, on the 17th inst. with a corps of 16,000 men, mostly Spahis, to attack that General, whose force consisted of about 8,000 men. The action began early in the morning, and was so ill conducted on the part of the Turks, that the Austrian infantry (from behind their redoubts) had little else to do than to mow down the Turkish ranks, as they rashly advanced within the reach of grape shot. To this carnage they exposed themselves repeatedly, during the course of the day, but without ever making the smallest impression on the Austrian line. At length, between five and six o'clock in the evening, they retreated, but were not pursued by the Imperialists, who chose not to quit their advantageous position to follow the enemy into the plain.

The loss of officers and men on the side of the Turks was very considerable, whilst that of the Austrians consisted only of five men killed, and twenty-five wounded.

The Turks have also attempted to penetrate into Transylvania. On the 13th and 14th instant they attacked the two passes of Vulcaner and Buzzauer, in large bodies, and with the utmost intrepidity, overthrowing the first corps of Imperial troops opposed to them at each of those passes, and making a considerable slaughter; but fresh troops arriving successively to their defence, the Turks were finally repulsed, without being able to gain any firm footing in that province.

Aug. 30. Advices from the camp before Choczyn, of the 20th instant, mention, that notwithstanding the extreme distress of the garrison, which, according to the reports of deserters, and of some prisoners of the combined army who had made their escape, had no other provision left than wheat spoiled by the fire and smoke,

smoke, the garrison continued resolutely to hold out, and refused to surrender, in the hope of receiving speedy relief.

Copenhagen, Aug. 30. Since his Majesty's declaration to the Court of Sweden and the other Courts, that his intentions were to fulfil his obligations according to the treaty subsisting between him and the Empress of Russia, and, in consequence thereof, to furnish that Sovereign with the number of troops agreed upon, no other declaration has followed, nor even the least apparent coldness on the part of Sweden; on the contrary, the Swedish Ambassador confers with the Minister of foreign affairs as usual, and perhaps the negotiation to re-establish peace in the North began the moment of our declaration. The quickness with which the equipments and preparations for war are making in Norway, is an object worthy of attention.

Berlin, Sept. 2. The King of Prussia, having completed the reviews of his troops in Silesia, returned yesterday in perfect health to Charlottenburg. To-morrow his Majesty removes to Potsdam, to exercise that garrison previous to the great manoeuvres which will take place as usual on the 20th of this month.

Paris, Sept. 6. It is reported, that the Assembly of the States General will meet before the appointed time, and even before the expiration of this year. But it will be difficult, if not impossible, for them to meet so soon, on account of the instructions expected from the Provincial Assemblies, and they cannot be held till October or November next. It was at first said that this grand national assembly would be held at Orleans, afterwards at Compeigne, Soissons, Rheims, &c. At present it seems that Rheims will be the place. The Assembly will consist of 800 persons.

Sept. 18. Mr. Necker continues supreme, to the exclusion of every person who is thought the least inimical to his measures, and is courting popularity by every stratagem that art can suggest; yet, with all this, there exists a degree of mistrust in the people at large, which all his artifice cannot oppose. The measures of Government are varying every instant; and it is impossible to know what particular plans are meant to be adopted.

In the mean time the Parliaments are recalled to their original functions, the Parliament of Paris has sat twice; and yesterday se'ennight in the evening his Majesty sent several resolutions to that assembly, purporting that the Parliaments should be restored, that he should take an early opportunity of acquainting the Members of it personally, and in the mean time desired they would not hold any further meeting.

The Duc de Chatelet has refused to take any part in Administration.

Nothing seems to delay his Majesty's going to Parliament, but the want of a Keeper of the Seals. Every thing was fixed for the Parliament of Paris to meet the King at Versailles on Monday last: the place was prepared for his presence, when a message was sent, that the Assembly was postponed. It will however probably meet very shortly. Mr. Barentin is the gentleman expected to succeed Mr. de Lamoignon. Indeed his succession seems certain. He is much esteemed, and has great merit.

The late Prime Minister is not so secure in his retreat as he imagined himself. Fresh councils have produced fresh sentiments in the King's mind. The Archbishop having an intimation that arrest was intended, requested the King to order a *Lettre de Cachet* against him to one of his country houses; this, had he obtained it, would have secured him, but it was refused. It is generally imagined he will be impeached.

The Parliament of Brittany has written to the Pope, requesting his Holiness would not grant a Cardinal's Hat to the Archbishop of Sens. This letter from its singularity, has given much cause for speculation.

Twelve gentlemen, deputed from Brittany, who had been imprisoned in the Bastille, were released by Mr. de Crofne, the Lieutenant-General of the Police, in person, on Friday the 12th instant, and they were to set out, together with fifty-two other deputies, for that province, where they will be received with great joy and gratitude.

EAST-INDIA INTELLIGENCE.

The following paper, which has evidently some great reform in view, was published and circulated at Madras towards the conclusion of the last year.

The Governor in Council having directed that lists be formed of all offices, places, and employments in the civil and military establishments under his Presidency, together with the salaries, pay, and emoluments belonging thereto, be made up to the 30th of June last; it is hereby ordered, that all those who are in the receipt of allowed fees or emoluments of office, do immediately transmit an account of the average monthly amount of them to Mr. George Mowbray, the Accountant-General, that the same may be included in the statement of their salaries, allowances, and emoluments; distinguishing likewise the different individuals composing each respective department, as required by the 40th article of an Act of the 24th of his present Majesty, respecting the British establishments in India.

By Order of the Governor in Council,

CHA. N. WHITE, Sec.

A gentleman lately returned from the East-Indies, has favoured us with the fol

lowing paper, which has been printed and circulated in Bengal by order of Lord Cornwallis.

The Hon. President in Council is pleased to publish the following regulations, in order to collect materials for the purpose of improving the geographical knowledge and navigation of India.

1st. That with the above view, and that those who will be chiefly benefited by so desirable an undertaking, may be induced to assist towards its success, notice is hereby given to all commanders of vessels sailing under a British flag, that the Chief Engineer will receive from them such information as they may have acquired during their residence in India, which may tend to the improvement of the chart commonly used, or to ascertain the situation of shoals and rocks not generally known.—Copies will be made of such charts or journals, without expence to the informants.

2dly. That in future all Owners or Masters of ships be desired to report ten days after the return of their ships to the port of Madras, such observations as may have occurred, and to permit copies to be made of such part of their journals and charts, as may be useful towards the forwarding of the object proposed.

3dly. That the Master Attendant be instructed to be particularly attentive towards carrying into effect the orders of Government, respecting such ships or vessels as return from voyages made to the eastward of the Straights of Malacca, to the eastern coast of Africa, the Red Sea, Persian Gulph, or from thence to Bombay; and that he be directed to transmit regularly to the Chief Engineer, all charts, journals, or materials whatsoever, which he may be able to obtain in consequence of these regulations.

By Order of the Honourable the Governor in Council.

JOHN CHAMIER, Sec.

The accounts in general received from all parts of India, represent the state of the Company's affairs to be in a very prosperous way; their debt is greatly diminished; the discount on their bonds much reduced; the investments made on better terms than formerly, and great reductions making on their annual expenditure, although an army is kept up equal to resist all the powers of the East, who stand in the greatest awe of our formidable establishment.

Bengal was in the greatest distress for Silver Specie, when the last accounts came away. The large sums drained from that country in remittances to China for Tea, as well as the fortunes partly smuggled to Europe in Specie, have quite exhausted the wealth of the kingdom. Silver was at 3 per Cent Premium in exchange for Gold.

Salt, Opium, and Rice, in some of the provinces, the three staple commodities of Indian subsistence, were at an enormous price, and higher than was ever known in Bengal. The purchase of the two former at the Company's Sales, from the scarcity of Silver, was stipulated to be paid half in that coin;—it had, however, but little effect on the market. These high prices will, no doubt, increase the Company's revenue for the present; but whether it will be of eventual advantage, time must determine.

New York, July 2. Great changes are likely to take place in the politics of this country. The present constitution of this country, as Thirteen separate (though called United) States, is found to be inefficient. A convention of the States assembled at Philadelphia last year have planned one very similar to the British constitution, excepting that it is in a republican form. It consists of a President, Senate, and Assembly; they are to govern the whole continent; their acts will be absolutely binding on their constituents. Former acts of Congress were only recommendatory. There is as much noise concerning the new constitution here, as was in 1775 concerning the late war.

A private letter from the University of Cambridge in America informs us of the following regulations respecting the dress of the Students, which have been recently voted and adopted.

Resolved, That the freshmen, who shall be admitted into this University before the end of the summer vacation, be provided with coats of blue-grey, a mixture of blue and white wool, as nearly as may be seven-eighths of blue, and one eighth of white, waistcoats and breeches of the same, or of a straw colour.

That all who shall hereafter be admitted when they commence Sophisters shall have the addition of frogs to the button-holes of their coats, but the cuff of the sleeve to be plain.

That when they commence Inner Sophisters, they shall have the addition of frogs on the button side.

That when they commence Junior Sophisters, they shall have the further addition of buttons and frogs to the cuff of their coats.

That when they are admitted to the Bachelors degree, they shall appear in like gowns and clothes as are prescribed for the Senior Sophisters.

That both Seniors and Juniors shall wear their black gowns on all public occasions.

That no under graduate be permitted to appear in any other dress than is here described, unless he has on a night-gown, or an outside garment be necessary over his coat.

That no part of the dress of Under Graduates be made of silk.

That these regulations be extended to all who shall hereafter be admitted to this University.

(Signed) JOSEPH WILLARD.

Portsmouth, in New Hampshire, July 25.

Mr. Adams arrived on the 13th of this month at Boston. After the long stay which he has made in Europe, the reception he met with was as distinguished as his personal merit and the services he has rendered his country. In the midst of the acclamations of the citizens he was conducted to the hotel of Government, where he remained and received the compliments of the first persons of the town and its environs. As the Legislative Assembly of Massachusetts's Bay was then sitting, they sent a Deputy, who addressed him in a discourse, congratulating him on his return, with that of his family, to the United States, and particularly to that in which he was born; and assuring him of their satisfaction and affection for the benefits his zealous endeavours had conferred on them. To this he gave an answer expressive of his pleasure and his gratitude

soon become the distinguished seat of the fisheries of the north.

Edinburgh, September 2. On Wednesday last came on here before the High Court of Justiciary, the trial of William Brodie and George Smith, for breaking into the General Excise-Office of Scotland in the night of the 5th of March last, and stealing bank-notes and money. The trial commenced at a quarter before nine o'clock in the morning, and the evidence was not closed till after one the next morning, when the whole was summed up by the Lord Advocate on the part of the crown and by the prisoner's counsel. The Lord Justice Clerk then gave his charge to the jury, which lasted till near six o'clock, when they were enclosed, and at one returned a verdict, unanimously finding the prisoners guilty. A motion was then made for an arrest of judgement, which their Lordships unanimously rejected; and the Lord Justice Clerk passed sentence on the prisoners to be executed on Wednesday the 1st of October next.

September 15. On Friday night the sentinel on duty at the Excise-Office, Leith, was terribly wounded in different places by some persons who had deprived him of his musket, and broke his bayonet in pieces. One man is taken upon suspicion, and two others have eloped.

September 13. Yesterday failed to Leith Roads, the Experiment, of Leith, the double vessel, the construction of which has been described in our last. She went out of the harbour about mid-day, and was at first moved along by the wheels with considerable velocity. When she had got a little without the pier head, they hoisted their stay sails and square sails, and stood to the west-ward; but her masts and sails being disproportionate to the weight of the hull, she did not go through the water so fast as was expected. Another thing that impeded her progress considerably was a netting across the bows, for the purpose of preventing loose wreck from getting amongst the wheels, and a steering machine between the two rudders, that was found to be of little use. These being removed, must add considerably to her velocity. They stood about half first over, and then tacked; but the ebb tide coming down, and the wind increasing, they cast anchor, and weighed with next flood; and, notwithstanding the wind was blowing out of the harbour, by means of their wheels and stay-sails, they got easily in about eleven o'clock at night.—The stern of the Experiment is ornamented with an emblematical painting, elegantly executed by Mr. Nasmith. Sir John Clark, Captain Inglis, and a number of gentlemen versant in maritime matters, went out

SCOTLAND.

Inverness, August 22. The Circuit Court of Justiciary was opened here on Friday, by the Right Honorable the Lords Justice Clerk and Stonefield. William Cormack, accused of housebreaking and theft, was found guilty, and sentenced to be hanged at Inverness upon Friday the 17th of October next. Margaret Smith, accused of child murder, having petitioned for banishment, the same was consented to, and she was banished Scotland for life, under the usual certification. Donald Ross, tenant and drover in Kirkiboll, was tried for stealing a cow; found not guilty, and dismissed from the bar.

August, 28. By a letter from Ullapool, on the north-west coast of Scotland, we have the pleasure to learn, that the new town, which under the patronage of the British Society for the encouragement of the fisheries, is rising on that beautiful peninsula, is already in a state of considerable forwardness; many of the shops of the artificers, a still greater number of private houses, and some of the larger buildings for the accommodation of the fishermen, (erected by tenants to whom land for the purpose has been granted by the Society) are at this time actually finished. And if we may judge of the general satisfaction expressed by the people of the country, as well as from the ardour of the new settlers, and the natural advantages of the place, Ullapool will

out to the Roads in boats, in order to judge of her sailing.

I R E L A N D.

Ballycastle, Sept. 3. On Friday last, the 29th of August, a most splendid and elegant entertainment was given at the Castle of Ballintoy, by John Stewart, Esq; on account of the birth of a son by his lady. All the gentry of the place were present, and several strangers of distinction, who were invited on the occasion.

All was harmony and good humour until the company began to break up, when an unhappy dispute arose between Robert Boyd, Esq; Sub-Sheriff of the county of Armagh, and Mr. George Black, of Glenties, near Ballymoney; the company interfered, and seemingly reconciled the disputants; however, they secretly stole out to the Court-yard, accompanied only by their own two servants, and in an instant measured out the ground, and adjusted every other part of the business. The first fire falling to Mr. Boyd, he unhappily shot his antagonist through the brains, who instantly fell, and expired without a groan.

Mr. Black was buried yesterday, Tuesday, the 2d, in Ballymoney church-yard; the children of the Sunday school, which he supported, walked in procession.—There is the most general grief for him, every one feeling for his loss in some way or other. Mrs. Black is inconsolable, being but three short weeks married.

Dublin, Sept. 6. Yesterday the Rev. Patrick Fay was tried before the Recorder, on an indictment for forging a note in the name of the High Sheriff of the county of Meath, for 21. 6s. 9d. when, after a trial which lasted a considerable time, the Jury brought in their verdict guilty: and the Court pronounced sentence of death. By the line which he has continued in these several years past, he has realized a handsome property, by purchasing a number of houses in different parts of the city, which it is supposed will devolve to his three children, the eldest being only twelve years old, the mother of whom died a few years since.

The unfortunate Mr. Fay bore a good character in private life, and was esteemed in the neighbourhood where he lived, a good husband and father.—In his professional line he was highly reprobated by those, whose children and friends he had joined together in marriages, that were totally against their parental views and inclinations, and the interests of the parties. He read his recantation from the Roman Catholic religion several years ago, and was made Curate of the Royal Hospital at Kilmaham, from which he was afterwards dismissed for misdemeanors; he then commenced couple beggar,

and, as *once a thief so for ever*, the business he got in his line was really astonishing; for he would marry any person, though ever so nearly related, if he was well paid, inasmuch that the Archbishop of Dublin, about a year ago, had him sued in several of the Courts, and at length obtained a decree, whereby his marriages were declared null and void, and himself to be deemed guilty of felony in case he should ever after marry; notwithstanding which, he still persisted, and continued his calling with wonderful success; for in order to secure himself from being detected, he never would (since the Bishop's decree) give a certificate to the parties whom he would marry.

Dublin, Sept. 5. The late unfortunate Mr. Ward committed the rash act of suicide in the Castle garden, where he was observed to walk alone for some time.—Being about the hour of breakfast, the servant went to acquaint him that his company was expected, when he found his unhappy master lying, or sitting against the garden wall, and weltering in his blood. He had opened the arteries of his neck with a penknife; the hæmorrhage, as might be expected, was terrible; yet through the assistance of the surgeons called by his distracted family, he lingered out an existence until near two o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, possessing his speech and mental faculties unimpaired to the moment he expired.

The late Mr. Ralph Ward, whose untimely death is very much regretted, was a native of England, and was brought over to this kingdom by the late Duke of Leinster, then Marquis of Kildare, and at that time Master General of the Ordnance, through whose interest Mr. Ward was appointed Surveyor General to that Board, which employment he held very near twenty-six years.

By the death of Mr. Ward, the employment of Comptroller of the Laboratory belonging to the Board of Ordnance has become vacant.

Dublin, Sept. 13. Mr. Ward was at his villa, near the Rock, when he first heard of the Ordnance-office being sealed up, and the decisive steps taken by the Viceroy to investigate the whole business and accounts of that department. On the intelligence he seemed somewhat affected, but not alarmed, expressing his wish that every matter might be scrutinized, and not doubting but his character would be altogether in the firm basis of honour and strict integrity. Some friends of high respectability visited him next day—to them, in the most peremptory manner, he asserted his innocence, disclaimed all knowledge of fraud, embezzlement, or any the slightest peculation—his wish—his sole object was investigation into every account

account—every office, as the only certain means of vindicating his honest fame.—Mr. Ward perverted in the very same language on the Sunday and Monday following, and seemed busily engaged with the Secretary of the Ordnance, in preparing boldly to meet every charge. On the Tuesday evening he was visited by a gentleman who held an office of considerable trust in the arsenal, and had the care of the small arms. After some little conversation, Mr. W. was reminded of a transaction, which for the moment he seemed to have totally forgot; it was, an order he had prevailed on this gentleman to sign for 1000 stand of arms. He very candidly confessed, that in this affair he had reason to take to himself no little share of blame, he had been repeatedly solicited to sign the order, and this for two months he peremptorily refused; but Mr. W. might recollect his coming to him, and stating the distress he was then in, occasioned by some play-debts, which, if not immediately discharged, his character would be ruined, and upon his assurance that the matter should be soon and properly replaced, he did sign the warrant, and for this Mr. W. received the amount at the Treasury. Matters were now in such a situation, that bare assertions could not be admitted; Facts were strong, proofs undeniable; for his part he was determined to produce such documents as must vindicate the share he had in that transaction. Mr. W. seemed exceedingly agitated—soon after the gentleman had taken leave, he returned to his apartment, and perpetrated the deed which has been attended with such dreadful effects. Though able to make himself intelligible, and dictate some alteration in his will, he did not drop another sentence about his innocence; indeed the rash act he committed fully justified every suspicion conceived of the peculation in that department, and the event confirmed it.

The fabricated order for the thousand stand of arms took place in the year 1780.

If there was in 1780 such a gross fraud in a single instance, what a series of depredation, plunder and peculation must have continued in that department ever since.

Indeed it turns out an enquiry that the defalcations are enormous—the false returns were incessant.

COUNTRY-NEWS.

Plymouth, August 25. Yesterday a farmer sent his servant to Mr. Tremiers, a farmer in the parish of Plimstock, for a team of straw. In the straw-house a loaded gun having been imprudently left, the man who came for the straw took it up in his hand, when it went off and lodged the contents, which were swan shot, in the

face of a fine little boy, son of Mr. Tremiers, aged three years and fourteen days; the charge entered about the eyes, and blew the skull off; so that the poor child was left a shocking spectacle, to the great grief of its parents.

Bristol, August 27. Last Tuesday evening, as Edward Griffin, a lad of twelve years of age, was going with drink to the reapers in a field belonging to Edward Davies, of Langatock Crickhowell, in the county of Brecon, he was met by Thomas Phillips, aged twenty years, who levelled his gun under pretence of shooting one Thomas Morgan, a lad of about eleven years of age; and Morgan being afraid ran behind Edward Griffin, when Phillips discharged his piece, and lodged the contents in the bowels of the said Edward Griffin, who died in great agonies in three quarters of an hour afterwards. Thomas Phillips was a servant to the Rev. Mr. Payne, of Langaddock, who, as soon as he had shot the lad, threw down the gun, and ran off.

The Coroner's Inquest brought in their verdict wilful murder.

Birmingham, August 28. A most diabolical attempt has lately been made to poison the water of a well belonging to farmer Smith, of Churcham, in Gloucestershire; several people who drank of it are now dangerously ill. The farmer's wife has lost all the hair from her head, and several pigeons, that drank of the water, are dead. It is supposed, revenge for some little affront was the motive to this horrid deed.

Lincoln, August 28. On Wednesday se'nnight was committed to Lancaster Castle, Henry Brown and John Read, charged with having murdered William Brownhill, at his dwelling-house, in the night of the 3d instant, at Cronton, in Lancashire.

Newcastle, August 30. On Monday forenoon two shoemakers belonging to Brumpton, near Richmond, went a nutting, when, from some unknown cause, one of them inhumanly stabbed his companion, whose groans brought to his assistance some reapers working in a field adjoining; but notwithstanding their endeavours to save his life, the wound was so effectually given, that he expired soon after in great agony. The offender was secured in Richmond gaol, to take his trial at the next assizes for the county of York.

Reading, August 30. Saturday last James Cumber and another man having been drinking together in a public-house at Share, near Guildford, Surrey, had some words on a causeway on their return home, when Cumber struck his companion a blow which knocked him off the causeway, and unfortunately occasioned his death. The Coroner's Inquest sat on the body

body, and brought in their verdict Man-laugher; on which Cumber was committed to the New Gaol in the Borough, to take his trial at the next Kingston assizes.

Manchester, September 2. A few days since Mr. Turner, surgeon and man-midwife, in Rochdale, safely delivered a poor woman, inhabitant of that place, of two sons and a daughter, which are all likely to live. What adds to our surprize is, that the same woman at three births has been delivered of seven children, five of which were ushered into the world in less than a year and a quarter.

Hereford, September 3. Yesterday morning the foundation-stone of the great nave of our Cathedral was laid in the presence of a large concourse of people, the Bishop, Dean, and many members of the church attending.

In opening the old foundations of the Cathedral, for the above purpose, a large stone being removed, a cavity of mason-work was discovered, of proper dimensions for containing a coffin: in this cavity was found a skeleton, with several pieces of very coarse woollen cloth, fastened together with wooden skewers; both the cloth and skewers were much decayed, but not the smallest remains of a coffin or its furniture could be discovered after the closest inspection.

Exeter, September 3. On Wednesday the 6th ult. at night, a most dreadful accident happened at Perranwell, in the parish of Perran Arwothol, at the Crown Inn there. —Some persons being quartered at the said inn, were disturbed by a noise which they imagined to be fire, upon which they immediately got out of bed, and found their apprehensions too true, for nearly the whole house was in a blaze. They immediately hastened to the room wherein the landlady, who is a widow, with her children, slept, whom they awoke in the greatest consternation, and throwing two beds out of the window, which were every article that was saved from the ravages of the flames, they delivered her and her two little orphans, naked, through the same; and had just time sufficient to escape themselves, when the whole roof, floors, &c. fell in. The landlady's mother-in-law happened to be there on a visit, but the room wherein she slept being forgot through hurry she perished in the flames. The cause of this unfortunate accident is attributed to the flue of the chimney in the brewhouse, which is separated by only a single brick on its edge from some of the timber of the house. The method of separating flues by a single brick on the edge is too often practised by injudicious tradesmen, to the ruin of many a house, and the discredit of themselves and their fraternity.

Lewes, Sept. 8. Early on Saturday morning last, a phaeton and four, and four men in it, started from Bright-helmstone and ran to this town, we apprehended against time, and for a very considerable sum of money, as nothing short of such a wager, or an expedition on life and death, could in any degree justify the mercilefs manner in which the poor horses were driven. We know not what time they started; but they arrived at the Crown, in this town, about half past six, where the drivers, after a refreshing themselves with three glasses of shrub, each, and their horses with a drink of cold water, and by throwing a quantity over them, set off in like manner on their return; but by the time they had reached our church, one of the horses, being no longer able to go, fell down, and was dragged by the others the whole length of the church before they could be stopped, to give him an opportunity to recover his legs, this, however, he then with difficulty effected, but was obliged to be taken from the carriage, and died on the road, as he was leading to Bright-helmstone.

On enquiry having been made into the above affair, it appears that it was a performance undertaken by servants, without the knowledge of their masters. It was not a match against time, but rather the black horses against the bays, to be driven in the same phaeton, at full speed, till one or the other should be jaded or knocked up, which was to decide the wager: one of the blacks having sunk and died under the performance, the match consequently terminated in favour of the bays.

The phaeton and black horses were the property of John Pardoe, Esq. Member for Plympton, in Devonshire; the bays belong to — Graham, Esq; Barrister at Law.

The principal offender was Mr. Pardoe's coachman, named William Gilbert; the others are Benjamin Woodward, alias Flying Ben, (an appellation very suitable to the task he had engaged in), coachman to Mr. Ewer, one of the Bank Directors; Henry Phillips, servant to Mr. Graham; and George Moreton, otherwise Mendoza, out of place, but an occasional helper to the other three. Gilbert was on Monday taken up by virtue of a warrant, granted by Henry Shelly, Esq; and after three several examinations, was on Saturday committed to Hortham gaol, to take his trial at our next assizes for the offence, which according to the best legal opinions constitutes a felony, and for which he will accordingly be indicted. The other three have absconded, but warrants are issued for apprehending them.

The horse that was killed on being afterwards

terwards, opened, appeared to have lost all the fat about his kidneys, which, from excessive heats, had been entirely melted. Mr. Pardoe was last season at Brighthelmston bid one hundred and fifty guineas for him by G. Onslow, Esq; which he refused, being his favourite horse.

When men in inferior stations of life so far forget themselves, as to lose sight of their subordination, they should be made sensible of their error; but when they hold the authority of those whom they live under at defiance; and proceed to the commission of offences like the above, it is fit examples should be made of them, if it were only to teach others in similar situations a proper sense of their duty.

Stamford, Sept. 12. The first meeting of the Lowther Fox-hunt, with the late Noel hounds, was at Holywell on Wednesday morning last; Lord Exeter was the first person that appeared; his Lordship went with Sir William and the rest of the company to cover, where Reynard was soon put to his shifts, and "he is off," was proclaimed by the jovial cry of twenty-five couple of the finest hounds in the world. This pack has been kept at Cottesmore, in this neighbourhood, beyond the remembrance of any person living. It was originally the property of the first Lord Gower, who resided there for many years in the hunting season. The money spent for the maintenance of hounds, horses, and servants, in the course of the last fifty years only, cannot be computed at less than 75,000*l.* which sum may fairly be doubled, by adding to it the consequent expences of the neighbouring sportsmen, and of strangers from all parts, who yearly partook of the diversion. So much money spent upon the occasion must have been some consolation to the honest farmer for riding over his green corn, which true sportsmen do as little as possible.

On Friday the 29th ult. a young woman, big with child, after receiving her wages for work done for Mr. Wright, farmer, of Deeping, in the evening set out for Spalding. It rained very hard all night, and on the road she was taken in labour, and delivered herself of a child. She put the infant in her apron, and in that distressed situation proceeded on to Spalding, to the house of a person with whom she had before lodged; but this inhuman wretch, deaf to her piteous cries, turned the poor creature from the house, while the rain poured in torrents on her head. Thus situated, she, notwithstanding the inclemency of the night, proceeded to Crowland, ten miles from Spalding, with the poor infant in her apron: when she arrived there it is supposed she found the child dead, for she, with a knife only, dug a hole in the church-yard, and there buried it. How must every feeling breast thud with horror at the savage brutality of

—, in denying the poor girl a lodging for that night! She asked no more; nor could she entertain a doubt of being refused admittance to the house where she before used to lodge. What pity it is that there is not some punishment inflicted on such abandoned wretches, who are lost to every feeling of humanity; when they see a fellow creature and a female in a situation the most distressing! There is every reason to suppose the treatment which the poor woman received was the occasion of the infant's death, and as such, ought to be severely punished.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

August 25. This morning early, Mr. Willdon, purser of the Francis East-Indiaman, arrived at the India-House, with advice of the above ship, Captain Robert Burrowes, having safe arrived on Saturday last, off the Isle of Wight, from Fort Marlborough.

She quitted Bencoolen the 21st of March, 1788, got into St. Helena the 13th of June, and sailed from thence the 24th following.

The King George fur ship, from Kamshatka, but last from China, arrived off Dover on Sunday last with all well on board: She brings a cargo of tea on account of the East-India Company.

This evening the Purser of the Queen, from China, Capt. Douglas, also brought intelligence to the India-House, of her having safe arrived off Dover on Sunday last.

August 26. A fellow had the audacity this morning, between seven and eight o'clock, to unloose and steal the iron work which fastens together the railing before the Marquis of Stafford's house at Whitehall. He was heard at work by one of the maid-servants, who from the window asked him what he was doing, when he replied with seeming indifference, that he was sent from a smith's (whose name he mentioned) in King-street, St. James's-square, to repair the railing. However, before the servants could get round to the street, he had decamped. He brought a basket of tools with him, and appearing so deliberately at work, was not noticed by the people who were passing. His intent undoubtedly was, after having taken away the fastenings, to remove the rails at his leisure. He had been several mornings at work, for the servants had heard more than once a hammering, but knew not whence it arose.

Sept. 3. This day the four following prisoners were executed opposite the debtors door in the Old Bailey, viz. Samuel Warner, Thomas Riley, William Chatwin, and John Davis. They were brought on the scaffold a little after eight o'clock, and the floor dropt at half after nine. They behaved very penitently, and acknowledged

knowledgeed the justice of their sentence.

Yesterday morning a most extraordinary robbery was committed in the house of Mr. Smith, New Road, St. George's in the East.—Last Tuesday a genteel dressed woman, of the name of Edwards, hired an apartment to lodge and board at ten shillings per week; she pretended she came from the country to transact some business with her attorney in town. Unfortunately Mr. Smith had no time to enquire her character, and therefore admitted her without. In the morning she called the maid about seven o'clock, pretending to be very ill, and then desired the servant to go to the Swan, in Whitechapel, to fetch a trunk which she said was left there for her the night before; the unsuspecting girl accordingly went, as desired, and before she could return, and while Mr. and Mrs. Smith were in bed, she decamped, carrying with her every thing which was portable; such as plate, china, linen, wearing apparel, and a time-piece that stood on the mantle piece in the parlour. This should serve as a caution to all people letting lodgings, not to take strangers into their houses, without being thoroughly satisfied as to their characters.

It is with pleasure we learn, that in a letter communicated by Dr. Wright of Jamaica, to Sir Joseph Banks, the real cinamon tree of Ceylon is now successfully cultivated in Jamaica.

This noble plant, he says, with other valuable ones, was taken in a French ship; and Admiral Rodney, attentive to national prosperity, presented them to the Assembly of that Island.

One of the trees was planted in the botanic garden in St. Thomas in the East; the other by Hinton Esq. in the noble gardens at the foot of the Blue Mountains. From these parent trees some hundred of young trees are already produced, from layers and cuttings, and dispersed to different parts of the country, in all which they thrive luxuriantly with little trouble; we may therefore hope they will soon be a valuable addition to our commerce.

He informs him also, that the Palma Christi, or tree that produces the castor-oil pod, is also flourishing in such a degree, that the inhabitants can afford to burn it in lamps; it is much cheaper, clearer, and less offensive than the fish oil of America.

Sept. 10. This day the sessions commenced at the Old-Bailey, when the following criminals were capitally convicted: James Smith, alias Lacy, for stealing a cheviot gelding, the property of Jonathan Pegrum, at London Wall. Thomas Jones, for feloniously assaulting John Wilson, on the highway, in the parish of St.

Botolph, Aldgate, and stealing a silver watch, &c. William Johnson, for burglariously breaking and entering the dwelling-house of Margaret Allen, at Hampstead-heath, and stealing several geese, ducks, &c. John Crawford, for burglariously breaking and entering the dwelling-house of Francis Bay, in the parish of St. John, Wapping, with intent to steal his goods. John Dancer, for stealing a gilt metal box, and various other articles, value 5l. in the dwelling-house of Daniel Donner, at Harlow. John Thomas, for burglariously breaking and entering the dwelling of George Alther, at Salt-petrebank, and stealing a quantity of liquor and a brass cock. Robert Guy, James Dawson, and Robert Fenwell, for stealing two geldings, the property of Thomas Hall and Robert Turner; and Michael Cooner, for returning from transportation. Six were convicted of felonies, and ten were acquitted.

Sept. 11. John Short and Herbert Burleton were tried for robbing Lord Southampton of a gold watch, on the 30th of June.

His Lordship described the manner he was surrounded on the above evening, as he came out of the Lyceum—that he felt Short's hand at his watch, and instantly seized him by the collar—the watch was gone; nor was it found on Short. These circumstances were corroborated by his Lordship's servant and a constable.

Mr. Heather, a pawnbroker, proved that Burleton brought the watch-case to him.

Burleton rested his defence on the publicity of his conduct, and his good character. Short, relied on the watch not being found on him, and the casualty of the crowd.

Short, Guilty. Burleton, Acquitted.

Joseph Taylor, was also capitally convicted of a burglary in the dwelling house of John Hunt. Eighteen were convicted of felony, and seven acquitted.

Sept. 12. William Wilkins was tried for the wilful murder of Thomas Noel, near the Hurlings in Covent-Garden, on the 4th of August last, and was acquitted. William Mason, for stealing a table-clock, watches, &c. the property of the Duke of Devonshire, was found guilty of larceny. Ann Breen, Rachael Harman, and Elizabeth Willoughby, indicted for child-murder, were acquitted.

Sept. 13. Shaftee Vaughan, for a forgery upon Messrs. Drummond and Co in the name of Susannah Newton, was acquitted.

Sept. 15. Nineteen prisoners were tried, one of whom was capitally convicted, viz. George Vincent, alias Brandy, for feloniously assembling with about thirty other persons, armed with offensive weapons,

pons, at Bourne Bottom, in the parish of Holderness, Hants, on the sixth of November, in order to be aiding, assisting, rescuing, and taking from Thomas Quick, officer of excise, a quantity of rum brandy, and Geneva, being run goods which had been seized by the said Thomas Quick. Ten were convicted of felonies, and eight acquitted.

Sept. 16. Twenty-two prisoners were tried, two of whom were capitally convicted, viz. Hugh Murphy and Catharine Murphy, alias Bowman, for feloniously and treasonably colouring and washing, with certain materials producing the colour of silver, several pieces of base coin, so as to resemble the current silver coin of this realm called shillings and sixpences. Seven were convicted of felonies, and eight acquitted.

Sept. 17. Twelve prisoners were tried, two of whom were capitally convicted, viz. Thomas Johnson, and Elizabeth Shakespear, for assaulting Isaac Lewes, in a house in Cable-street, and robbing him of a waistcoat, a knife, a pair of spectacles, &c. Four were convicted of felonies, and six acquitted.

Sept. 18. This day twenty-four prisoners were tried, nine of whom were convicted of felonies, and thirteen acquitted. After which the sessions ended, when eighteen convicts received judgment of death, forty-eight were sentenced to be transported, thirteen to be imprisoned, and kept to hard labour in the house of correction, five to be imprisoned in Newgate, four to be whipped and discharged, and thirty-four were discharged by proclamation.

The session of the peace is adjourned until Monday the 20th of October at Guildhall, and the session of gaol delivery of Newgate until Wednesday the 22d of October, at the Old Bailey.

Jones, alias Barrington, being brought up among the prisoners to be detained in custody, took that opportunity of addressing the court in a very long speech on the subject of his outlawry, which was heard with much attention and to which the Recorder replied. Mr. Barrington then bowed respectfully and retired from the bar.

Sept. 22. Monday evening the master of the Shepherd and Sheperdels, in the City-Road, was, with five other gentlemen, overtaken in a wherry in the Gallions, near the Halfway-house to Gravesend, and four of them, with one of the watermen, were unfortunately drowned. The master of the Shepherd and Sheperdels, and one of his companions, with the other waterman, being the only persons saved. The unfortunate sufferers have left three wives and fourteen children.

PROMOTIONS.—The Right Hon. John Griffin, Lord Howard of Walden, Knight of the most honorable Order of the Bath, and General of his Majesty's forces, to be a Baron of Great-Britain, by the name, title, and title of Lord Braybrooke, Baron of Braybrooke, in the county of Northampton.—The Hon. Jeffrey Lord Amherst, Knight of the most honorable Order of the Bath, and General of his Majesty's forces, to be a Baron of Great-Britain, by the name, title, and title of Baron Amherst, of Montreal, in the county of Kent.—Sir William Scott, Knt. Doctor of Laws, to be his Majesty's Advocate-General.—The Right Hon. Sir Joseph Yorke, Knight of the Bath, and General of his Majesty's forces, to be a Baron of Great-Britain, by the name, title, and title of Lord Dover, Baron of the town and port of Dover, in the county of Kent.—The Right Hon. Sir James Harris, Knight of the Bath, his Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the States-General of the United Provinces, to be a Baron of Great-Britain, by the name, title, and title of Lord Malmibury, Baron of Malmibury, in the county of Wilts.—Charles Whitworth, Esq; to be his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Peterburgh.—Robert Lithon, Esq; to be his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of Stockholm.—Daniel Hailes, Esq; to be his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of Warsaw.

BIRTHS.—The Right Hon. Lady Gray de Wilton of a daughter, at his Lordship's house in Hanover-square.—The lady of Richard Carr Glyn, Esq; of a son, at his house in Jermyn-street.

MARRIED.—John Hodsdon Durand, Esq; of Woodcot Lodge, in Surrey, to Miss M. A. Haffel, John Weller, Esq; of Amerham, Bucks, to Miss Catherine Fowler, of the same place. Ralph Clayton, Esq; Serjeant at Law, to Miss Loxham, of Longton. At Geneva, William Wickham, Esq; to Miss Bertrand. Charles Grimstead, Esq; of Leatherhead, Surrey, to Miss Charlotte Walth, youngest daughter of John Walth, Esq; of Redbourn, Herts. Henry Griffiths, Esq; of Berkshire, to Miss Griffiths, only daughter of the Rev. John Griffiths, Rector of Chipstead, in Surrey. At Rochester, William Hanfson, Esq; of that city, to Miss Crowther, of Chatham. At Dryden, Scotland, Thomas Farguharson, Esq; to Miss Elizabeth Macleod, of Geanies, Esq. Simon Holliday, Esq; of Sackville-street, to Miss Harvie, of Great Marlborough-street. George Arnold, Esq; of Ashby Lodge, Northampton, to Miss Morison, daughter of Lieutenant-General Morison, of Upper Seymour-street. Duncan Davidson, Esq; of John-street, Bedford-row, to Miss Gemmel, of Weymouth-street. George Welch, Esq; of Leck, near Kirby-Lonsdale, to Miss Amy Robinson, second daughters

daughter of the late Dr. Thomas Robinson, of Liverpool. John Amler, Esq. of Shrewsbury, to Miss Lloyd, of Nunton, near Salisbury. John Hobart Briggs, Esq. of the General Post-Office, to Miss Oldham, of Mary-le-bone. Hugh Wallace, Esq. of the island of Jamaica, to Miss Frances Ritchie, daughter of James Ritchie, Esq. of Busbie. — Mablon, Esq. of Harley-street, to Miss Holt, of the same place. John Reed, Esq. of Crethan, Glamorganshire, to Miss Bevan, only daughter of Dr. Bevan, of Neath. Charles Pugh, Esq. of Sydenham, in Kent, to Miss Lloyd, of Montgomery.

DIED.—Her Grace the Duchess of Kingston. At Brighton, his Grace the Duke of Manchester. At Glasgow, John Young, aged 105. — Jebb, Esq. of Lamb's-Conduit-street. Clement Corderoy, Esq. Deputy of Bridge Ward. In Great Marlborough-street, Lady Brett, relict of Sir Percy Brett. John Hooper, jun. Esq. of Walcot, near Bath. At Lambeth, Mr. Joseph Friend, of Apothecaries-Hall. At Walton Grove, Surrey, Joseph Banks, Esq. L. L. B. Chancellor of the diocese of York. At Darnway, near Edinburgh, Lady Margaret Stuart, daughter to the Earl of Moray. At Clifton, the Hon. Mr. Chichester, second son of the Earl of Donegal. Ralph Carr, Esq. of Cocken, in Durham. In Portman-square, Sir Charles Agill, Bart. John Fisher, Esq. of Bishopstoke, in Hampshire. William Mill Leves, of Tortington in Sussex, Esq. John Eaxter, Esq. of the Rock, Montgomeryshire. At Up-Park, in Sussex, Lady Fetherstonhaugh, relict of the late Sir Matthew Fetherstonhaugh, Bart. At Karlsruhe, near Falkingham, Mary Ram, aged 107. In Queen-square, Westminster, Lady Lloyd, relict of the Hon. Sir Richard Lloyd, Knt. At Blackadder, Edinburgh, Lady Home, relict of Sir James Home, Bart. At Kirk-Ella, near Hull, Edward Coulson, Esq. At St. James's-place, Lieutenant-General James Cunningham, Colonel of the 45th regiment of foot, and Member of Parliament for East Grimstead. Joseph Everett, Esq. of Heytebury, Wilts. William Fauquier, Esq. one of the Directors of the South-Sea Company. At Elgin, Scotland, John Innis, of Dunkinty, Esq. aged 91. At Kennington, Thomas Tolfon, Esq. formerly commander of an East-Indiaman.

BANKRUPTS.—Mary Sands, Marshal Crampton, and Adlard Storr, of Notting-ham, hosiery. James Edwards, of Bridge-street, Lambeth, linen-draper. William Andrews, of Long-acre, harness-maker. Thomas Mellin, of Kingston-upon-Hull, linen-draper. James Palmer, of Bristol,

mariner. Joseph Smith, of Yarmouth, shopkeeper. William Dirrick, of Westmoreland-buildings, Alder-gate-street, watch-maker. George Padmore, late of Mitcham, Surrey, calico-printer, shopkeeper. John White, of Prince's-street, Westminster, carpenter. Henry Jordan, of Gloucester-street, Queen-square, tailor. Daniel Lant, of Friday-street, wine-merchant. Peter Child, of Pulham, Norfolk, grocer. William Walmsley, of Manchester, merchant. Robert Sugden, of Aldgate, linen-draper. Abraham Taylor, of Ackworth, Yorkshire, miller. Thomas Noble, of Penrith, Cumberland, draper. George Margetts, late of Ludgate-hill, but now of Penton-street, Clerkenwell, clock and watch-maker. James White, of Birmingham, button-maker. Robert Tipping, late of Liverpool, cotton-manufacturer. William Gaman, of Gosport, Hampshire, painter. John Button and Francis Putley, of Southwark, clock and watch-makers. Moses Levy Moses, of Portsmouth, Hants; and Lewis Mosley, otherwise Moses, late of Richmond, in America, but now of Portsmouth, Hants, watch-makers. Thomas Swann, now or late of Birmingham, riding-master. Richard Potter, late of Mansion-house-street, and John Gregory, late of Boston, North-America, now of Charing-cross, merchants. John Cole, late of Arnold's, in Surrey, now of Cannon-street, merchant. Barnet Guest, of Limehouse, Middlesex, merchant. Thomas Pidwell the Younger, late of Penzance, Cornwall, hatter. Thomas Lander and William Bell, of Walfal, Staffordshire, buckle-rollers. Moses Delmonte, of New Ormond-street, Middlesex, money-scrivener. George Emmer-son and Richard King the Younger, of Little St. Thomas the Apostle, brokers. John Whitehead the Younger, of Birmingham, button-maker. John Powell, of Whitechapel, linen-draper. Robert Shepherd, of Sunderland, mercer and draper. Thomas Wright, of Harp-lane, London, merchant. William Fox, of Bread-street, Cheap-side, warehouseman. Lyon Abraham, of Basinghall-street, jeweller. Peter Kerrison, of Sir William Warren's Square, Wapping, carpenter. Alexander Hogg, of Nicholas lane, grocer. John Rogers, of Whitechapel, rationer. John Minkey, of Little Wild-street, carver and gilder. Thomas Cripps, of Birmingham, Warwickshire, button-maker. George Emclon, of Little St. Thomas Apostles, dealer. John Burdon, of Norton, Durham, sugar refiner.

ERRATA in our last, page 81, col. 1, line 3, for 1401, read 1491: page 125, col. 2, line 9, from the bottom, for Nantz, read Nancy: page 147, col. 2, line 5, for bareit, read bareit.

EACH DAY, PRICE OF STOCKS IN SEPTEMBER, 1788.

Bank Stock.	3 per Ct. reduc.	3 per Ct. Contol.	Ditto Contol.	5 per Ct. Navy.	Long Ann.	Short ditto.	India Stock.	India Ann.	India Bond.	S. Sea Stock.	Old Ann.	New Ann.	3 per Ct. 1781.	New Navy.	Exch. Bills	Lottery Tickets.	17th L. Tickets
27	74 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			69 70 p.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
28	175 75	74 75		96 97	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
29	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
30	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
31	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
1	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
2	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
3	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
4	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
5	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
6	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
7	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
8	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
9	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
10	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
11	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
12	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
13	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
14	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
15	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
16	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
17	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
18	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
19	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
20	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
21	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
22	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
23	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
24	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
25	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6
26	175 75	74 75		95 96	227-16	18			74 pr.		74 75	73 74		1 1/2 dif.	38 pr.	16 2 0	7 9 6

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